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PLYMOUTH

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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HISTORY OF PLYMOUTH

NEW HAMPSHIRE

VOLUME I. NARRATIVE—VOLUME II. GENEALOGIES

V. 1, pt. 1
VOLUME I

EZRA S. STEARNS, A.M.

MEMBER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL, NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL AND AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES

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PLYMOUTH! My childhood's cherished home
 By Pemigewasset's side,
 My thoughts to thee still fondly roam
 With never failing pride.
 What though the ruthless hand of Time,
 And man's, more ruthless still,
 Have swept the glories of your prime
 From homestead vale and hill,
 Yet memory wanders with delight,
 Amid your woods and streams,
 Where lurks the ever beckoning sprite
 Of youth's departed dreams.
 Though saddening thoughts will cluster round
 Where once our homestead stood,
 Like standing on a funeral mound
 In retrospective mood,
 While vanished joys and early loves
 Like haunting mourners stand,
 And long-stilled voices from their coves
 Reflect the shadowy band,
 Still beauty lingers 'mid decay,
 With fading glories blent,
 As round the broken vase of clay
 Will cling the roses' scent.
 I gaze enraptured on your hills
 Which compass you around
 Like sentinels, whose silence thrills,
 To guard enchanted ground.
 While northward grandeur bold and clear
 Confronts the searching eye,
 Where Pelion upon Ossa rear
 Those cloud-capped hills on high.
 Down through the valley's peaceful glades
 The Pemigewasset flows,
 A mirror of the lights and shades
 That in its depths repose.
 Its source amid the granite walls
 Springs pure and fresh and free,
 And hastening to its destined falls,
 Commingling, seeks the sea.
 Like niche reserved for household gods
 In memory's sacred cell,
 I'll shrine thee, Plymouth, till thy sods
 Shall cover me as well.
 And thou, fair river, onward glide,
 Thou to thy course art true;
 May I, with all my human pride,
 A lesson learn from you.

WALTER M. ROGERS.

From Old & Harvard of the State Library, Library
Pearson, Secretary of State, Alvin Durbidge, George H. Adams,
Hodney K. Burdick, and William J. Henshaw of Plymouth, and
from my brother & sister I have received many
favors, and to them I am deeply indebted.

PREFACE.

IN a perusal of this volume the reader is invited to bear in mind, that the records of Plymouth to the year 1799 are lost apparently beyond a hope of recovery. This loss in a small measure is compensated by the fortunate preservation of the original warrants and the town clerk's minutes of the proceedings of a few of the town meetings from 1766 to 1799. On account of this serious break in the records of Plymouth a few subjects are omitted and others are treated more briefly than the author desired.

Plymouth from the beginning has occupied a prominent position in Grafton County, and the attitude and influence of the town in county affairs have received attention in the following pages. During the War of the Revolution the record of the town is the continued story of patriotism and sacrifice. The chapters relating to this feature of the History of Plymouth have been carefully written, and to the narrative of individual service has been added an account of the attitude of the town and the intimate connection of Plymouth with the related affairs of the county and State.

The most gratifying reward for writing the History of Plymouth is found in the pleasing memories that linger when the work is done. Representing the town, the committee in a kind and efficient manner has rendered valuable assistance, and to each of them I am under an obligation that passes from the relations of associates to the higher plane of regard and friendship.

From Otis G. Hammond of the State Library, Edward N. Pearson, Secretary of State, Alvin Burleigh, George H. Adams, Rodney E. Smythe, and William J. Randolph of Plymouth, and from my brother Samuel Henry Stearns I have received many favors, and to them I am deeply indebted.

EZRA S. STEARNS.

FITCHBURG, MASS., 1905.

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FINAL REPORT OF THE TOWN HISTORY COMMITTEE.

DISCUSSION among certain citizens concerning the desirability of a history of Plymouth led to action by the town, which at the annual meeting, March 12, 1895, upon motion of John Keniston, passed the following vote:—

“Voted that a history of the town of Plymouth be prepared by and under the direction of a committee of seven members, consisting of the ministers of the three local churches and four other members to be appointed by the selectmen, with the following provisos:—

“The board shall organize itself; shall make a brief report of its doings at each annual town meeting; shall be authorized to expend not exceeding fifty dollars annually, the money to be paid by the town from moneys not otherwise appropriated.”

Additional sums of money have been appropriated by the town at its annual meetings, and the receipts and expenditures under these appropriations are shown in the printed reports of the treasurer of the committee.

The original *ex officio* members of the committee were:—

Rev. Frank G. Clark, Congregationalist,
Rev. George N. Dorr, Methodist Episcopal,
Rev. Noel E. Spicer, Universalist;

and those appointed by the selectmen were:—

John Keniston,	Dean S. Currier,
Dr. Robert Burns,	Frank W. Russell.

At the first meeting of the committee, April 26, 1895, Frank W. Russell was elected chairman and Dean S. Currier secretary and treasurer.

Rev. Frank G. Clark, upon his removal from town in 1904 was succeeded by Rev. Clinton W. Wilson. Rev. George N. Dorr has been followed by Rev. John A. Bowler, Rev. J. H. Emerson, Rev. Willis M. Cleaveland, Rev. Robert T. Wolcott, and Rev. E. C. E. Dorion. Rev. Noel E. Spicer has given way to Rev. W. A. Williams, and he to Rev. Bernard C. Ruggles. In 1899 Dean S. Currier left Plymouth, and his place as secretary and treasurer has been filled by Wm. G. Hull. Dr. Robert Burns has been absent from Plymouth since the Spanish-American war of 1898, and no appointment to that vacancy has been made.

Soon after its organization the committee distributed blanks for family record to the members and descendants of Plymouth families. These blanks were accompanied by circulars indicating the manner in which they were to be filled out, and referring to various sources of information, but the replies received were few and meagre. It was apparent that if the wish of the town to secure its history was to be realized the task must be confided to *one* man who was experienced in work of that nature and could devote his entire time to it. In April, 1899, Rev. Moses T. Runnels was engaged as town historian. He had previously shown himself well qualified for the position, his History of Sanbornton being esteemed by competent critics a "Classic" among town histories. Mr. Runnels proved both faithful and able, and he gathered much genealogical material, but his labors were terminated by his death in March, 1902. In April, 1902, Rev. John L. Merrill, formerly of Newbury, Vt., but then of Fitchburg, Mass., consented to continue the history, but in a few weeks ill health compelled him to relinquish the undertaking.

In May, 1902, the committee secured the services of Hon. Ezra S. Stearns, now of Fitchburg, Mass., but long a resident of New Hampshire, with the understanding that he was to write a volume of history and to revise and complete the volume of

genealogy and superintend the publication. Mr. Stearns was no novice in an enterprise of this character, being already widely and favorably known as the author of the histories of Rindge, N. H., and Ashburnham, Mass., and the compiler of a revision of the genealogical portion of the History of Littleton, N. H. He at once entered upon his duties with zeal and has performed them with marked ability. In all transactions with Mr. Stearns the committee has found him welcoming suggestion, tolerant of criticism, and laudably ambitious to produce a history that would be creditable to him and useful to present and former residents of Plymouth and their posterity. The committee considers that he has accomplished this purpose.

The town having voted at its annual meeting, March 8, 1904, "to authorize the selectmen to guarantee the cost of printing the town history," the committee made a contract, April 25, 1904, with the University Press (John Wilson & Son, Incorporated) of Cambridge, Mass., to furnish all materials for and print, bind, and deliver one thousand copies of the History of Plymouth, N. H., in two volumes, viz., Vol. I, Narrative, Vol. II, Genealogy.

The payment of all indebtedness upon this contract was guaranteed by the selectmen (Heber W. Hull, Charles W. George, and William J. Randolph) in accordance with the vote of the town above referred to.

The committee believes that the History of Plymouth as now completed and ready for delivery to purchasers will not suffer by comparison with those of other towns. The record of families is unusually full and given in greater detail than is ordinarily attempted. If briefer mention is made of some persons than their merits would warrant, or if names are missing which should properly appear there, it may be assumed that the necessary information was not furnished by the people who would naturally be most interested in doing so. In this connection it may be noted that a list of the taxpayers of Plymouth from 1770 to 1900 and a compilation of the vital statistics of the town from

1850 to 1900, both of them made by the Misses Hattie and Augusta Sargent of Plymouth, have been filed in the town clerk's office.

Great care has been taken to avoid errors, but the history is not free from them. Many of these have been rectified in the appendix, and the readers of these volumes are earnestly requested to examine the "Corrections and Additions" there found before concluding that the matter in which they are interested has been wrongly presented or omitted altogether.

As it is not practicable to name every one whose aid has been invoked in the preparation of this history, the committee desires to make a general acknowledgment of its indebtedness to them, and hereby expresses its sincere thanks for the encouragement, assistance, and support it has received during its service from many individuals and from the town of Plymouth.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK W. RUSSELL,	} <i>Committee.</i>
WILLIAM G. HULL,	
JOHN KENISTON,	
BERNARD C. RUGGLES,	
CLINTON W. WILSON,	
E. C. E. DORION,	

PLYMOUTH, N. H., Jan. 1, 1906.

HISTORY OF PLYMOUTH, N. H.

I. INTRODUCTION.

PLYMOUTH, one of the shire towns of Grafton County, in New Hampshire, is situated upon the west bank of the Pemigewasset River, which divides the town from Holderness and Ashland. The town is bounded on the north by the western part of Campton, on the south by Bridgewater and Hebron, and on the west by Groton and Rumney. The original grant included a part of Hebron and Alexandria. The changes in the boundaries and area of the township are presented in subsequent chapters. The drainage of the township is through two confluent rivers and eight contributory streams. The Pemigewasset, from the lofty citadels of the north, in swollen torrents proclaims the grandeur of the mountains which give it life, and in the placid waters of summer it murmurs of the sunshine and meadows which gladden its onward course. It rises in Profile Lake, beneath the rugged features of the Old Man of the Mountain, in the midst of the Franconia range, and, flowing through Lincoln, Woodstock, Thornton, and Campton, it forms the eastern boundary of Plymouth and joins the Winnepesaukee River at Franklin. The united rivers become the Merrimack, which flows through peopled towns to the toil of the mills below.

Approaching Plymouth from the northern hills through narrow and rock-walled ravines, the Pemigewasset, ever the servant and master of man, surrenders a part of its narrow valley for roads and railways. Plymouth is rightly designated "The Gateway to the Mountains."

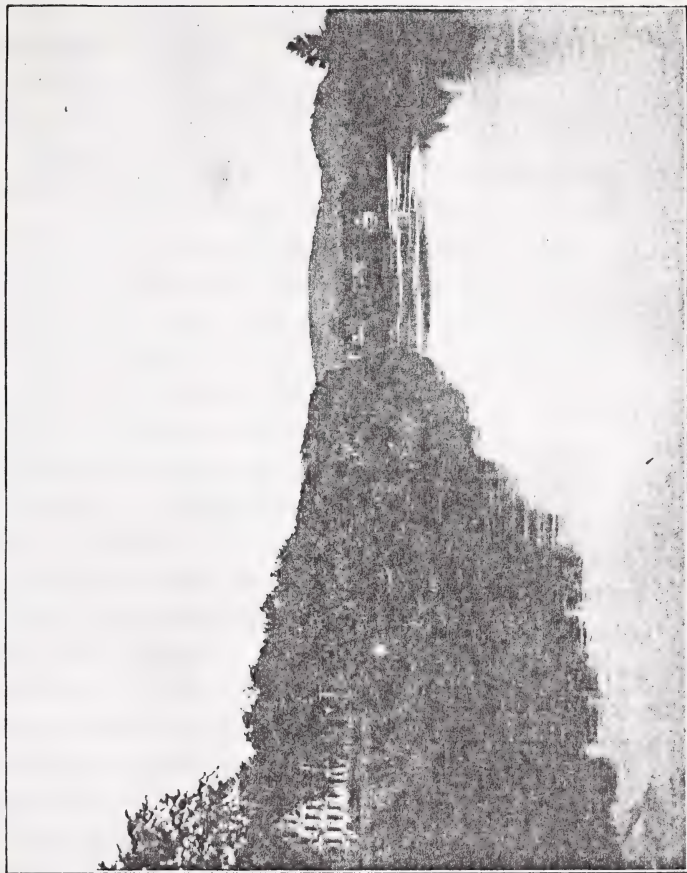
Baker's River, gathering the streams at the base of Moosilauke Mountain, in Benton, and receiving affluents from the eastern part of Orford, unites in Wentworth with a branch from Orange. It flows through the southern part of Rumney and the northern part of Plymouth, and empties into the Pemigewasset in the northern part of the village. The railroad from Plymouth to Woodsville is located through Plymouth, Rumney, and Wentworth, near the course of this river.

There are eight brooks in Plymouth, winding like ribbons of silver through the shadows of the forest and the greensward of the meadows. Five of these limpid rivulets, three from the north and two from the south, flow into Baker's River, and three, seeking a shorter journey to the eternity of rivers in the sea, are tiny affluents of the Pemigewasset.

Except upon the brook flowing from Loon Pond to Baker's River, the foundations of ancient dams remain upon the banks of all of them. The mills have fallen in decay and have not been restored, but the purling brooks are still running to the sea, and as joyously as in the olden time, when, resting at the dam, they sprightly turned the wheel at the mill, and dashing the foam from their rippling crests went laughing and dancing through the meadows until they were hidden in the bosom of the accumulating river.

After a turbulent and tortuous course through the worn and rocky gorges of the mountains, the Baker's and Pemigewasset rivers placidly glide through Plymouth in a first enjoyment of rest and tranquillity. From the inlet of Baker's River at the line of Rumney to the southern limit of the town, where the Pemigewasset regretfully passes restful Plymouth, a distance of nearly eight miles, the fall in the level of the river is only twenty-five feet.

The banks of cascades and swift-flowing rivers are rugged and rockbound. The broad and beautiful intervalles are spread upon the banks of rivers at rest. The lover of nature, charmed with the beauty of the meadows upon the Pemigewasset, will pro-



PEMIGEWASSET RIVER, LOOKING NORTH FROM HOLDERNESSE BRIDGE

nounce them matchless until his enraptured eyes behold the valley of Baker's River and all in Plymouth. In the sunshine of summer and of autumn, when the shadows of flying birds or fleecy clouds, like draperies of spirit form, sweep over the mantle of green, or when the waving blades are shimmering in the russet hues of ripening grain, the genius of prose in the rapture of admiration is dumb. Only the soul of the poet or the brush of the artist can sketch the matchless beauty of the meadows of Plymouth.

Beyond the confines of the fruitful intervalles the landscape is dotted with hills of many forms and elevations. Upon the plateaus and the gentle slopes of the hillsides once covered with forests, are substantial houses and farm buildings surrounded by acres of productive soil. Here have lived, and here are living, real men of Plymouth, useful in life and honored in memory.

Plymouth Mountain, with the name of the town upon its rugged brow, and with its southern slope extending towards Bridgewater, is the highest and most prominent elevation. In the rosy glow of morning, rejoicing in the earliest rays of the rising sun, the grim old herald of returning days each morning reviews the awakening energies of the town. South and west of the village rise the fair outlines of Thurlow Mountain, Cummings Hill, Pike Hill, and Groton or Tenney Mountain, and all in name and association are texts of local history. Ward Hill, the site of the first and second meeting-houses, is small in stature, but it is here the fathers worshipped and forever it will be a sacred shrine of Plymouth.

From the summit of the near-by elevations are presented charming views of Plymouth village, outlined upon a canvas of meadow and terrace. The church spires, symbols of peace on earth, goodwill toward men, the public and business buildings substantial and ornate, and the neat and attractive residences dotting the plain and investing the hillside are embraced by the Pemigewasset winding through the margin of an enchanting picture. Nestling low in the valley, and girded by the everlasting hills, the village

has been christened at the fountain of poetic imagery, "The Bird's Nest in the Mountains."

Like a gem encircled with rubies, Plymouth is the centre of surrounding grandeur. From many crested hill-tops, under a sky as blue as the eye of beauty and in the charming drives around the town, the lover of nature is enchanted with an envired landscape of mountain and lake vying with the magic charms of Italy. Wherever nature has rived a panel in the massive gates of distant mountains, opening to his view a panorama of matchless sublimity, —

Often the wayfaring man
Would love to linger there
Forgetful of the onward road
To gaze on scenes so fair.

Walter Mulliken Rogers, whose love for Plymouth is given back to him in the full measure of brotherhood and friendship, responds to a request for a sentiment: —

Plymouth! lovely, charming, enchanting to my eye in life; when I shall have shuffled off this mortal coil,

"Shelter my defenceless head
'Neath the shadow of thy wing."

The welcome guest within the gates of Plymouth may light his taper from the flaming love of home burning in the soul of the native born. He, too, will admire the sweep of the river, the charming confusion of hill and plain, of rugged mountains, and meadows in green, but his love cannot surpass the love of him whose summer and winter, whose childhood and age find a deeper meaning and a more charming loveliness in field and in river, in mountain and in meadow. To him at home and at the church, in the school and in the town house, in the store and in the office, on the farm and in the forest, the love of his surroundings has sweetened life and sanctified the aspirations of the soul. To him who loves his native town, the History of Plymouth in New Hampshire is dedicated.

II. CAPTAIN BAKER.

COLONEL SAMUEL PARTRIDGE wrote to Governor Joseph Dudley. The letter was written at Hatfield and was received at Boston. The colonel proposed to the governor "an expedition with about forty men to Coassett." The governor communicated the letter with a message to the Council and Assembly. The Council and Assembly did not know very much about Coassett, but they were pleased with the idea of an expedition. This was in 1711. In 1652 the commissioners of Massachusetts followed the course of the river and engraved their initials on the face of the boulder at the Weirs, and it is probable that before 1711 many disconsolate captives had been conducted by the Indians through the Pemigewasset valley, who weary and footsore had pressed the soil of Plymouth. The expedition, however, "with about forty men," is the earliest recorded evidence of the presence of white men in Plymouth. Lieut. Thomas Baker, an adventurous soldier of Northampton, Mass., was selected to command the expedition. In March, 1712, with thirty-two men, he set out on a perilous march through an uninhabited wilderness. It was a mission of exploration of the Coos country. The history of the expedition was not written until many years after the death of the heroes of the exploit. The narratives mainly are fables presenting the first fruits of a lively imagination. It is known that Lieutenant Baker and his men followed the course of the Connecticut River to Piermont or Haverhill, thence turning southeasterly they crossed the heights in Warren and proceeded through Rumney into Plymouth. Here, at the confluence of Baker's and Pemigewasset rivers, they had an encounter with the Indians. The engagement was brief and without loss to the soldiers; the

party continued their march through Dunstable to Boston, where they arrived in May, 1712.

The following excerpts from the Massachusetts Court and Council Records present the contemporaneous record of the expedition: —

Wednesday,
March 12. 1711.

Present in Council
His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r Gov^r

.

His Excellency communicated a Letter from Coll. Patridge proposing an Expedition with about Forty Men to Coassett, W^{ch} was also communicated to the Representatives with his Letter in Answer directing the same, W^{ch} was returned by Cpt. Hunt one of the House with a Signification of their Approbation thereof.

Thursday
June 5, 1712.

Present in Council,
His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r Gov^r
W^m Tailer Esq^r Lieu. Gov^r

.

Resolved that the Sum of Ten Pounds be allowed & paid out of the Publick Treasury to Thomas Baker Commander of a Company of Marching Forces in a late Expedition against the Enemy to Coassett, from thence to the West Branch of Merrimack & so to Dunstable in Behalf of him self & Company for one Enemy Indian besides that which they scalp'd, W^{ch} seems very probable to be slain:

Consented to, J Dudley.

At a Council held at the Council
Chamber in Boston upon Tuesday
the 10th of June 1712

Present

His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r Governor
The Hon^{ble} W^m Tailer Esq^r Lt Gov^r

.

Pursuant to the Act for encouraging the prosecution of the Indian Enemy & rebels & the proemium thereby granted of ten pounds p^r Scalp to the regular detached forces under pay for every male Indian by them slain

Pursuant also to a resolve pass'd by the General Assembly in their present session that Lieutenant Thomas Baker Commander of a party of the regular forces on a late expedition through the woods from Deerfield to Coasset & from thence to Dunstable be paid the sum of Ten pounds for himselfe & company for one enemy Indian besides that which they scalped which seems very probable to be slain

Advised & consented That a Warrant be made out to the Treasurer to pay the s^d Lieut^t Baker for himselfe and company the sum of Twenty pounds for two enemy Indians by them slain the scalp of one being produced.

Wednesday,
June 11. 1712

Present in Council
His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r Governour
William Tailer Esq^r Lieu. Gov^r

Upon Reading a Petition of Lieut. Thomas Baker Commander of a Party in a late Expedition to Coassett & over to Merrimack River, Praying a further Allowance for more of the Enemy Indians killed by them than they could recover their Scalps, as Reported by the Enemy them selves:—Concur'd with the Resolve pass'd thereon: Viz, That the Sum of Twenty Pounds be allowed & paid out of the Publick Treasury to the Petitioner & Company:—

Consented to, J Dudley.

At a Council held at the Council
Chamber in Boston upon Wednesday
the 11th of June 1712

Present
His Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq^r Governour
The Hon^{ble} W^m Tailer Esq^r Lt Gov^r

Pursuant to a Resolve passed by the General Assembly at their present Session that the further sum of twenty pounds be allowed & paid out of the Publick Treasury to Lieut^t Thomas Baker & company for enemy Indians by them slain in a late expedition to Coassett & Merrimack over and above what was before granted

Advised & consented That a Warrant be made out to the Treasurer to pay the above sum of Twenty pounds to the s^d Lieut^t Baker for himself & company accordingly

Penhallow's Indian Wars, printed 1726, while in error concerning the route pursued by Lieutenant Baker, briefly states the incidents of the expedition in the record of the spring of 1712.

About this time fifty of our English who went up Merrimack river returned with the good account of eight Indians that they had slain and of considerable plunder besides, which they had taken, without the loss of one man.

There are many later narratives of Baker's fight with the Indians in Plymouth. Two of these are original statements and are quoted. The others contain no added information, and even the original statements, written many years after the events, are not authenticated by contemporaneous record. In the first statement, which is found in Farmer and Moore's Collections, Vol. III, the date should be 1712.

About the year 1720, Capt. Thomas Baker of Northampton, in the county of Hampshire, in Massachusetts, sat off with a scouting party of thirty-four men, passed up Connecticut river and crossed the height of land to Pemigewasset river. He there discovered a party of Indians, whose Sachem was called Walthernummus, whom he attacked and destroyed. Baker and the Sachem levelled and discharged their guns at each other at the same instant. The ball from the Indian's gun grazed Baker's left eyebrow, but did him no injury. The ball from Baker's gun went through the breast of the Sachem. Immediately upon being wounded, he leaped four or five feet high, and then fell instantly dead. The Indians fled to the river; Baker and his party pursued and destroyed every one of them. They had a wigwam on the bank of the river, which was nearly filled with beaver. Baker's party took as much of it, as they could carry away, and burned the rest. Baker lost none of his men in this skirmish. It took place at the confluence of a small river with the Pemigewasset, between Plymouth and Campton, which has since had the name of Baker's river.

The account given by Mrs. Bean, a daughter of Captain Baker, confirms the story of an engagement with the Indians but presents a different picture of the battle:—

She said that the enemy was composed of a large body of French and Indians, who were coming down from Canada to kill and destroy the

English; that they were in their boats sailing down the River: that, Baker, having previously discovered them, secreted his men in ambush, on the banks of the river, and at a signal given, his men fired upon them in their birch canoes, killed and wounded so many, sank their boats and so disconcerted them, that the remainder made a precipitate retreat to Canada. Capt. Baker was well acquainted with their chief, "Water-nomee," who was richly attired, his blanket covered with silver brookes, his powder horn and all his various trinkets, Capt. Baker took, and they are still among his descendants. Long afterwards, he used to show them to the Indians; they would shed tears, and make gestures, as though they would some time kill him, when war once more arose.

Traditional narratives expand by repetition. The accounts of the engagement with the Indians which have been quoted are dressed in the familiar uniform, and wear the service stripes of frequent use. The two accounts are contradictory in substance and in detail, but are constructed on familiar models. The duel between the captain of the soldiers and the chief of the Indians has embellished the narrative of many engagements in the Indian wars. In every instance the soldier is grazed but unharmed, and the poor Indian, pierced by a bullet, leaps to a stated altitude and expires. It is remarkable that these historic bullets, leaping from muzzle pointing to muzzle, and traversing in opposite direction the same course, have not met midway, smiting each other to the earth, much to the dismay of the opposing marksmen. In honor of Captain Baker one is sorry that Walternummus leaped only four or five feet high. Paugus, when shot by Chamberlain, leaped six feet high and died in the air.

Adhering closely to original record and admitting only the evidence of contemporaneous statement, it is authentic history that Captain Baker and his men fell upon and dispersed a body of Indians. The battle-field was at the northern extremity of Plymouth village. Several Indians were slain, and one Indian scalp was taken and exhibited in Boston. Penhallow, who wrote contemporaneously, states that eight Indians were slain. Fortunately the advent of a body of white men to the soil of Plymouth was not sealed with their blood.

Whether Captain Baker continued his march from the field of battle in triumph or retreat is not known. It is probable that he was not pursued by a crippled foe and that his march was enlivened by songs of victory. The story of retreat and the sagacity of a friendly Indian, found in Power's History of Coos, was first printed in Farmer and Moore's Historical Collections. Both narratives are the victims of internal infirmity.

Capt. Thomas Baker, the hero of the fight with the Indians in Plymouth and whose fame is perpetuated in the name of a beautiful river and a fertile intervalle, was born in Northampton, Mass., May 14, 1682. He was a son of Timothy Baker and a grandson of Edward Baker. His mother was a daughter of John Holliston of Weathersfield, Conn. During the Deerfield fight in 1704 he was captured by the Indians and conducted to Canada. He escaped the following year and returned to his home in Northampton. In the journeys and during his captivity he suffered extreme hardship and privation, but it is probable he gained considerable knowledge of the courses of the rivers and of the country between his home and Canada. At the time of the expedition to New Hampshire he was a lieutenant and was subsequently promoted to captain. During the years of nominal peace which succeeded the treaty of Utrecht Col. John Stoddard and Rev. John Williams were sent by the government to Canada to conduct the prisoners there confined to their several homes. Capt. Thomas Baker was employed by the commissioners as a guide and an assistant. The narrative of the journey and the successes and failures of the negotiations is found in Stoddard's Journal printed in Vol. V New England Historical and Genealogical Register. In the course of this visit to Canada Captain Baker met the lady who became the companion of his life.

Margaret Otis, daughter of Richard and Grizzel (Warren) Otis, was born in Dover, March, 1688-89. In the attack by the Indians on the Waldron, Otis, and Heard garrisons at Dover in 1689, Maj. Richard Waldron, Richard Otis, and twenty or more others were slain. At the same time Mrs. Otis and her infant

daughter were led into captivity. The French priests in Canada took the child, gave her the name Christine and educated her in the Romish religion. Subsequently she married a Canadian named LeBeau, by whom she had three children.

LeBeau died before 1714, and the widow of New England parentage was conducted by the commissioners to Massachusetts. On his return from Canada Capt. Thomas Baker settled in Brookfield, Mass. That the good people of Brookfield upheld the gallant captain in his wooing is confirmed by an entry in the Land Records, "then granted to Margaret Otis, alias LeBeau, one that was a prisoner in Canada and lately come from thence, forty acres of upland in Brookfield and twenty acres of meadow, provided she returns not again to live in Canada but tarries in this Province or territory and marries to Capt. Thomas Baker."

For land or for love she married him. The ceremony was solemnized at Northampton, 1715. A few years later Mrs. Baker received an argumentative letter from a Romish priest in Canada entreating her not to forsake the religion of her childhood and youth. The letter was read by others, who were of an opinion that the argument of the letter against the Protestant religion should be answered. Governor Burnet wrote a masterly reply, and the two letters were printed, 1729, and are reprinted in Vol. VIII, Collections New Hampshire Historical Society. Captain Baker was a prominent citizen of Brookfield and a Representative in 1719. Subsequently Joseph Jennings was elected. What Captain Baker said when another man was elected in his stead is not revealed, but when Joseph Jennings was appointed a Justice of the Peace Captain Baker was arraigned before the court at Springfield for blasphemy. It was alleged "there being a discourse of God's having in His Providence put in Joseph Jennings Esq of Brookfield a Justice of the Peace" and Captain Baker said, "If I had been with the Almighty I would have taught him better." The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

In 1721 and again in 1722 Captain Baker was sent by the government to Canada as a bearer of dispatches. In one of these

journeys his wife accompanied him and made a fruitless effort to obtain her children. Having sold their land in Brookfield, they removed, 1732, to Mendon, Mass., and two or three years later to Dover. Mrs. Baker was admitted to the church in Dover by letters from the church in Mendon, May 11, 1735. Captain Baker died soon after their removal to New Hampshire. Mrs. Baker died in Dover, Feb. 23, 1773. Capt. Thomas and Christine Baker had seven children. Among these was Otis Baker of Dover, prominent in civil and military affairs during the Revolution and succeeding years. The daughter, Mary, whose statement has been quoted, married Capt. Benjamin Bean, and died in Conway, Feb. 6, 1826, ten days less than one hundred years of age.

For generations the good people of Plymouth have regretted, and their generous sentiments of hospitality have been wounded, that Captain Baker and his men did not receive a more cordial welcome to the green fields of Plymouth. It was the first visit of white men to this beautiful valley, but they were not invited to tarry and to enjoy in a season of rest the charming scenery of verdant intervals and overhanging mountains. No banquet of venison and salmon was spread for them on the green banks of the river or the shaded slopes of the hillside. The advent of the white men and the meeting of the Indian hosts with their guests should have been a picture of peace and brotherly love, inviting the genius of the painter and inspiring the fancy of the poet. The meeting was neither an expression of peace nor an inspiration of art. The native lords of the Pemigewasset and Captain Baker's men met with the clash of arms and the clamor of war. The canvas is colorless and the verse is unsung.

The incidents of this expedition to the valley of the Pemigewasset and the encounter with the Indians temporarily cooled the ardor for the exploration of this section of the country. For a decade the locality has no place on the map of events. During the three years of war with the Indians, 1722-25, commonly called Lovewell's War, several scouting parties in search of the enemy followed the Merrimack River into the interior of New

Hampshire. From the available narratives and journals of the expeditions commanded by Capts. Jabez Fairbanks, John White, and Samuel Willard of Lancaster, Mass., and by Capt. John Lovewell and Col. Eleazer Tyng of Dunstable, it is known that some of the companies followed the Pemigewasset as far as the ingress of Baker's River. One of these scouting parties, traveling in an opposite direction, followed the entire line of Captain Baker's march through New Hampshire.

The following entries in the journal of Capt. John White of Lancaster, Mass., describe his march from a point in the present town of Concord to the Connecticut River:—

13 day [April 13] we traveled 7 milds and then campt at the iarish fort in penekook Entervals, that day it rained very hard all day.

14 day we travel^d 10 milds and then Crost meremack river above the mouth of Contookook river and then Campt.

15 day we travel^d 8 milds north west from Contockock to a litel stream that runs into meremack River about 3 milds westard from meremack and then campt and sent out skouts.

16 day we travel^d 12 milds and Cam to a pond which was very Long and we turned to the east sid of it and then campt, and then sent out skouts, that day we lay about 3 milds westard of the mouth of Winepisoecket.

17 day it raynd vere hard the fore part of the day and a litel before night it cleard up & we sent skouts found northen

18 day we traveled 14 milds and that day we Crost 2 great streames that runs in to meremack, one of them comes out of a great pond which sum indens says it is 3 days jurney round it the Land is verey full of great hils and mountains and verey rockey abundance of sprus and hemlock and fur and sum bech and maple and we campt

19 day we travel^d 11 milds and then campt at the Louar End of pemichewashet Lour Entervals and sent out skouts.

20 day we lay stil by reson of foull wether and towards nit it Cleard up and we sent out skouts and found whear Cornol Tyng crost meremack.

21 day we travel^d 12 milds up pemichewashet River and found old sines of indens and we sent out skouts that night and found one new track and we lay that night by the river and mad new camps. The Land that lys by this river is vere rich and good the upland vere full of hils and mountains, very bad traveling

22 day we travel^d 2 milds and then sent out skouts over the river and up a stream that runs into the river but found northen

23 day we traveld up the river about 14 milds and that day we Crost 3 streames that runs into the river this river coms sheafly from the north west & then we campt

24 day we traveld 10 milds westward and that day we found old signs of indens whear they had bin this spring and in the winter, and sent out skouts but cold find now indens This day Samil Moosman acidently kild himself with his own gun

25 day it rained very hard and we lay stil that day til almost night it cleard up and we sent out skouts but found northen

26 day we traveld 18 milds and came upon Conetecut river and one of our men was taken vere sik that night we campt by the river

27 day we traveld down the river and found a bark cannow which was of great sarvis to our sik man & to us; that day we traveld about 18 milds and then campt.

Captain White arrived in Lancaster, Mass., May 6, 1725. In his report to the governor he makes the following reference to the march in this vicinity:—

I marched up Merrimack about one hundred and thirty miles, and there discovered some signs of Indians. Some old, which we judged were made sometimes this winter; and one new track on the bank of the river, and we judged had gone but a few days before. I sent out scouts, but could discover nothing further. We then turned off to northward, toward Coos. Marched ten miles the twenty-fourth of April. At evening one of the men, viz. Sam. Mossman, of Sudbury, being about encamping, took hold of his gun that stood among some bushes, drew it towards him with the muzzle towards him. Some twigs caught hold of the cock. The gun went off and shot him through. He died immediately. We went across to Connecticut river; came down that to Northfield, and from there across the woods to Lancaster.

For many years the slumber of Plymouth in the wilderness was unbroken. The French and Indian War delayed the exploration and settlement of new territory. The troops sent to Crown Point from year to year followed the military road through Charlestown. The earliest attempts to explore the Coos country and to establish forts and settlements were made by way of the Connecticut River. It had become known that the Merrimack River and its western tributaries led the explorer, at several

points, to the watershed not many miles from the Connecticut. The people living in the valley of the Merrimack desired a northern and more direct line of travel to Coos. Partly in answer to such desire and partly as a military measure in a time of war, the government of New Hampshire appointed commissioners or a committee to survey and make a road to Coos. The word "make" when applied to roads at this date was used in the sense of locate or mark.

The committee consisted of Zaccheus Lovewell of Dunstable, John Tolford of Chester, and Caleb Page then of Derryfield and later of Dunbarton. For a guide they employed John Stark, who recently had been captured by the Indians in Rumney and had knowledge of the country. Having hired fifteen men, they set out from Concord March 10, 1753. In seven days they reached the Connecticut River at Piermont, and commenced their homeward journey the following day, arriving in Concord March 23. From the heights in Warren they pursued the shortest course to the Connecticut.

The following year the government ordered another expedition to the Coos country. It was commanded by Capt. Peter Powers of Hollis. He proceeded as far north as Lancaster or Northumberland. The journal of the expedition is found in Rev. Grant Powers' History of the Coos Country. The part of the journal describing the march from Concord to Rumney is as follows:—

Saturday, June 15th, 1754. This day left Rumford, (now Concord) and marched to Contoocook, which is about eight miles, and here tarried all night.

Sunday, June 16th. This day tarried at Contoocook, and went to meeting, and tarried here all this night.

Monday, June 17th. This morning fair weather, and we fixed our packs, and went and put them on board our canoes, about nine of the clock, and some of the men went in the canoes, and the rest on the shore. And so we marched up the River Merrimack to the crotch, or parting thereof; and then up the Pemigewasset about one mile and a half, and camped above the carrying-place, which carrying-place is

about one hundred rods long; and the whole of this day's march is thirteen miles.

Tuesday, June 18th. This day marched up the Pemigewasset River, about eight miles, to Smith's River, and then east one hundred rods, and then north two hundred and twenty rods to the long carrying-place on Pemigewasset River, and there camped.

Wednesday, June 19th. We marched on our journey, and carried across the long carrying-place on Pemigewasset River two miles north-east, which land hath a good soil, beech and maple, with a good quantity of large masts. From the place where we put in the canoes, we steered east, north-east, up the river about one mile, and then we steered north east one mile and north six miles up to Sawheganet Falls, where we carried by about four rods; and from the falls we steered about north-east, to Pemigewasset interval, two miles, and from the beginning of the interval we made good our course north four miles, and there camped on a narrow point of land. The last four miles the river was extremely crooked.

Thursday, June 20th. We steered our course, one turn with another, which were great turns, west, north-west, about two miles and a half, to the crotch, or parting of the Pemigewasset River, at Baker's River mouth; thence from the mouth of Baker's River, up said river, north-west by west, six miles. This river is extraordinary crooked, and good interval. Thence up the river about two miles north-west, and there we shot a moose, the sun about a half an hour high, and there camped.

Scarcely had Captain Powers returned from Coos before the war was renewed with increasing vigor and severity. The laudable effort of Gov. Benning Wentworth to explore and settle the northern section of New Hampshire was suddenly suspended and for a few years delayed. The war ended in victory and the conquest of Canada. A story of peace and the planting of a town in the wilderness will be the substance of another chapter.

III. THE CHARTER AND DRAFT OF LOTS.

THERE are several copies of the Charter of Plymouth available to the students of the early history of the town. With a varied use of capital letters and very slight differences in orthography the copies are identical. The original charter issued by the governor to the grantees is a printed form, then in general use, with blank spaces for the insertion of a name, the boundaries of the town, the names of grantees, and the date of the charter. The blank spaces for insertion of the dates of town fairs were not filled. Appended to the original charter of Plymouth were the names of sixty-two grantees, and on the back is engrossed the reservation of the governor's farm, considered as two rights and four public rights. The original charter is in a good state of preservation and is now in the custody of the town library. The charter is dated July 15, 1763, and the same day was recorded at Portsmouth in the official records of charters. These records are in the State archives at Concord. They were carried away by Gov. John Wentworth, but were returned a few years later. While these records were missing the State government ordered a new record made of the original charters in possession of the towns. Under this requirement the charter of Plymouth was recorded by the State, Feb. 14, 1781. Another copy of the original charter, in the handwriting of Abel Webster, is found in the Book of Records of the Proprietors in the office of the town clerk.

The grantees of Alexandria and New Chester and the other Masonian towns obtained only a grant of land. That was all the Masonian proprietors could bestow, and hence this class of towns obtained a name and the powers and privileges of a town by a

subsequent act of incorporation. The charter of Plymouth and other charters issued by the governor of the province were grants of land and town privileges combined, to which was added the gift of a name, in which the grantees had no voice.

Province of New Hampshire.

GEORGE, THE THIRD,

Plymouth



By the Grace of God, of Great-Britain France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith &c.

To all persons to whom these Presents shall come,
Greeting.

Know ye, that We of Our special Grace, certain Knowledge and meer Motion, for the due Encouragement of settling a *New Plantation* within our said Province, by and with the Advice of our Trusty and Well-beloved BENNING WENTWORTH, Esq; Our Governor and Commander in Chief of Our said Province of NEW HAMPSHIRE in *New England*, and of our COUNCIL of the said Province; HAVE upon the Conditions and Reservations herein after made, given and granted, and by the Presents, for us, our Heirs, and Successors, do give and grant in equal Shares unto Our loving Subjects, Inhabitants of Our said Province of NEW HAMPSHIRE, and Our other Governments, and to their Heirs and Assigns forever, whose names are entred on this Grant, to be divided to and amongst them into Sixty Eight equal Shares, all that Tract or Parcel of Land, situate, lying and being within our said Province of NEW HAMPSHIRE, containing by admeasurement Seventeen thousand ACRES, which Tract is to contain five & An Half Miles square, and no more; out of which an Allowance is to be made for High Ways and unimprovable Lands by Rocks, Ponds, Mountains and Rivers, One Thousand and Forty Acres free, according to a Plan and Survey thereof, made by Our said Governor's Order, and returned into the Secretary's Office, and here unto annexed, butted and bounded as follows; *Viz.* Begining on y^e Westerly Side of Pemidgwaset River opposite to the North West Corner of Holderness where the Line of Campton comes to the Said River; from thence Westerly about Three Miles, by the South Line of Campton to the South West Corner thereof which is the North East Corner of Cocker-mouth from thence South, thirty Degrees west five Miles & one Half-Mile by said Cocker-mouth, to the South Easterly Corner thereof from thence South Thirty Seven degrees West by a Tract of Land calld Cardigan Six Miles to the Northerly Line of New Chester so called;

from thence North Easterly by the Line of said New Chester about Eleven miles to Pemidgwasset River; from thence up Said River, as the Same Trends, to the Place began at — And that the same be, and hereby is Incorporated into a Township by the name of Plymouth — And the Inhabitants that do, or shall hereafter Inhabit the Said Township, are hereby declared to be Enfranchized with and Intitled to all and every the Priviledges and Immunities that other Towns within Our Province by Law, Exercise and Enjoy: And further, that the said Town as soon as there shall be Fifty Families resident and settled thereon, shall have the Liberty of holding *Two Fairs*, one of which shall be held on the

And the other on the , annually, which Fairs are not to continue longer then the respective following the said ; and that as soon as the said Town shall consist of Fifty Families, a Market may be opened and kept one or more Days in each Week as may be thought most advantageous to the Inhabitants. Also that the first Meeting for the Choice of Town Officers, agreeable to the Laws of our said Province, Shall be held on the First Tuesday of August next which said meeting Shall be Notified by Joseph Blanchard, Esq^r who is hereby also appointed the Moderator of the said first Meeting, which he is to Notify and govern agreeable to the Laws and Customs of Our said Province; and that the annual Meeting, forever, hereafter, for the choice of such Officers for the said Town shall be on the Second Tuesday of *March* annually. To HAVE and to HOLD the said Tract of Land, as above expressed, together with all Privileges and Appurtenances to them and their respective Heirs and Assigns forever, upon the following Conditions, viz.

I. That every Grantee, his Heirs or Assigns shall plant and cultivate five Acres of Land, within the Term of five Years, for every fifty Acres contained in his or their Share or Proportion of Land in said Township and continue to improve and settle the same by additional Cultivations on Penalty of the Forfeiture of his Grant or Share in the said Township, and of its reverting to Us our Heirs and Successors to be, by Us or them, Regranted to such of Our Subjects as shall effectually settle and cultivate the same.

II. That all white and other Pine Trees within the said Township, fit for Masting Our Royal Navy, be carefully preserved for that Use, and none to be cut or felled without Our special License for so doing first had and obtained, upon the Penalty of the Forfeiture of the Right of such Grantee, his Heirs and Assigns to Us, our Heirs and Successors, as well as being subject to the Penalty of any Act, or Acts of Parliament that now are or hereafter shall be Enacted.

III. That before any Division of the Land be made to and among the

Grantees, a Tract of Land as near the Centre of the said Township as the Land will admit of shall be reserved and marked out for Town Lots, one of which shall be allotted to each Grantee, of the Contents of one Acre.

IV. Yielding and paying therefor to Us, our Heirs and Successors, for the Space of ten Years to be computed from the Date hereof, the Rent of one Ear of Indian Corn only, on the twenty fifth day of *December* annually if lawfully demanded, the first Payment to be made on the twenty fifth day of *December*, 1763.

V. Every Proprietor Settler or Inhabitant shall yield and pay unto Us, our Heirs and Successors, yearly and every Year forever, from and after the Expiration of ten Years from the abovesaid twenty fifth Day of *December*, namely on the twenty fifth Day of *December* which will be in the Year of Our Lord, 1773, *One Shilling* Proclamation Money for Every Hundred Acres he so owns settles or possesses, and so in Proportion for a greater or lesser Tract of the said Land; which Money shall be paid by the respective Persons abovesaid, their Heirs or Assigns in our *Council Chamber* in Portsmouth, or to such Officer or Officers as shall be appointed to receive the same; and this to be in Lieu of all other Rents and Services whatsoever.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness

BENNING WENTWORTH *Esq.*, Our Governor and Commander in Chief of Our said Province, the fifteenth Day of July In the Year of our Lord Christ, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty three And in the third Year of Our Reign.

B. Wentworth

By His EXCELLENCY's Command

With Advice of COUNCIL

Theodore Atkinson Sec^y

The Names of the Grantees of Plymouth. [Engrossed on the Charter]

Joseph Blanchard, Esq.	William Cumings
William Read	Jonathan Hobart
Oliver Lawrence	Benj ^a Parker
William Nevens	Samuel Thompson
Onesepherous Marsh	Josiah Brown
Samuel Goodhew	Elnathan Blood
Samuel Cumings Esq.	Moses Merrell
Samuel Hale	Zachariah Parker
Joseph Warner	Amos Phillips
Daniel Emerson Jun.	John Willoby

Thomas Merrell	David Wright
Stephen Powers	Thomas McClure
Elnathan Blood Jun.	David Hobart
John Willoby Jun.	Samuel Cummings of Dunstable
Ebenezer Cumings	Abner Keyes
Richard Pierce	John Brown
Jonas Keyes	John Harvel
John Hobart	James Hobart
John Phelps	Mathew Patten Esq
Jotham Cumings	Francis Powers
Gershom Hobart	Peter Hobart
James Underwood	William Nutting
Nahum Powers	Thomas Daves
Jonathan Johnson	Nathiel Garfield
James Cowan	Jacob Hildreth
Stephen Ames	Oliver Parker
Phinehas Lund	Theodore Atkinson Esq
James Nahor	William Temple Esq
William McClure	Theo ^d Atkinson Jun. Esq
Abel Webster	Meshech Weare Esq
Ebenezer Hartshorn	Col. Joseph Smith

On the back of the charter is engrossed:—

One tract of land for his Excellency Benning Wentworth Esq. to contain five Hundred acres as Marked B W in the Plan which is to be Accounted two of the within shares one Whole Share for the Incorporated society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, one Share for a Glebe for the Church of England as by Law Established one Share for the first Settled Minister of the Gospel and one Share for the Benefit of a School in Said Town.

THE FIRST DRAFT OF LOTS DECEMBER 20, 1763.

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	TWO FIFTY ACRE LOTS OF UPLAND	ONE SIXTEEN ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL	ONE 5½ ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL
Joseph Blanchard.	{ No. Six, in Bakers river Range No. eight, in fourth Range No. fifty six, joining on the Pemegwa- sette River. No. one, in the third Range.	No. eight, north-side of Baker's river.	No. seventeen Lower Inter- vale
William Read.		No. thirty seven, north side of Baker's river.	No. ten in the Lower Inter- vale

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	TWO FIFTY ACRE LOTS OF UPLAND	ONE SIXTEEN ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL	ONE 5½ ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL
Oliver Lawrence.	No. twelve, first Range.	No. thirty five, north side of Baker's river.	No. forty Lower Intervale
	No. eight, second Range.		
William Nevins.	No. seven, Baker's river Range	No. nine, north side of Baker's river.	No. fifty five Lower Intervale
	No. seven, fourth Range.		
Onesipherus Marsh.	No. sixteen first Range.	No. twenty six, south side of Bakers river.	No. twenty five Lower Intervale
	No. ten third Range.		
Samuel Goodhue.	No. fourteen, Baker's river Range.	No. forty seven, north side of Baker's river	
	No. three, fourth Range.		
Samuel Cummings.	No. one, in the first Range.	No. thirty three, north side of Baker's river.	No. twenty seven Lower Intervale
	No. ten, in the second Range.		
Samuel Hale.	No. twenty four, Baker's river Range	No. twenty four, south side of Baker's river.	No. three middle Intervale
	No. six second Range.		
Joseph Warner.	No. fifty eight joining the upper Intervale on Pemegwasette river	No. two, north side of Baker's river.	No. forty four Lower Intervale
	No. two, fourth Range.		
Daniel Emerson.	No. four, first Range.	No. one in the Horse Pasture, or upper Intervale on the Pemegwasette river.	No. one middle Intervale on Pemegwasette river.
	No. thirty eight, lying to the west of and at a distance from the Lower Intervale.		
Thomas Merrill.	No. seven, first Range	No. five, six, & seven five & half acre lots in the middle Intervale equal to a sixteen acre lot.	
	No. thirty nine lying to the west of and at a distance from the Lower Intervale.		
Stephen Powers.	No. nineteen, first Range.	No. fifty three, north side of Bakers river.	No. twenty four Lower Intervale.
	No. thirty, north side of Baker's river.		
Elnathan Blood, Jr.	No. sixty joining the upper Intervale on Pemegwasette River. No. forty two, east of & joining the fourth Range.	No. four north side of Bakers river.	No. thirty three Lower Intervale.
	No. fourteen, first Range.		
John Willoughby.	No. twelve, second Range.	No. twenty eight, south side of Bakers river, two acres on the Intervale lot.	No. thirty nine, Lower Intervale

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	TWO FIFTY ACRE LOTS OF UPLAND	ONE SIXTEEN ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL	ONE 5½ ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL
Ebenezer Cummings.	{ No. thirteen, first Range No. seven, second Range.	No. thirty four north side of Baker's river	No. two in the middle Intervale on Pemegewassette river
Richard Pierce.	{ No. eight third Range. No. thirty seven, joining on Pemegewassette river.	No. five, horse pasture or upper Intervale on Pemegewassette river	No. sixty Lower Intervale.
Jonas Keyes.	{ No. fourteen, second Range. No. fifty three, lying on the west end of the fifty acre lot	No. thirty six, north side of Baker's river.	No. fifty six Lower Intervale
John Hobart.	{ No. thirty six that joins the middle Intervale on Pemegewassette river No. twenty five, on Baker's river R. No. nine, in the second Range.	No. twenty five, south side of Bakers river.	No. thirteen Lower Intervale
John Phelps.	{ No. nine, third Range. No. fifty seven, joining the upper Intervale on Pemegewassette river.	No. thirty nine, north side of Bakers river.	No. thirty six Lower Intervale
Jotham Cummings.	{ No. seventeen and eighteen, first Range. No. thirty five, north of Baker river. No. forty three, lying on the east side of the fifty acre	No. twenty two south side of Baker's river.	No. eighteen Lower Intervale
Gershom Hobart.	{ No. forty-two that joins the south Range No. thirteen, third Range No. fifty four, joining the middle Intervale on Pemegewassette River.	No. forty eight, north side of Baker's river	No. eight middle Int. on Pemegewassette River
James Underwood.	{ No. thirteen, third Range No. thirty four, joining the middle Intervale on Pemegewassette River.	No. three, in the horse pasture or upper Int. on Pemegewassette river	No. forty seven Lower Intervale
Nahum Powers.	{ No. thirteen on Baker's river Range. No. six, third Range.	No. seventeen, south side Bakers river	No. twenty three Lower Intervale
Jonathan Johnson.	{ No. one, Baker's river Range joining Pemegewassette river No. twenty six, on Baker's River Range	No. twenty seven South side of Bakers river.	No. fifty Lower Intervale

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	TWO FIFTY ACRE LOTS OF UPLAND	ONE SIXTEEN ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL	ONE 5½ ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL
Stephen Ames.	No. twenty three, on Baker's river Range. No. four, in the third Range	No. twenty three, south side of Bakers river.	No. twelve Lower Intervale
James Nahor.	No. twenty seven, joining Governors farm north side Bakers river No. four, in fourth Range	No. one north of Baker's river.	
William McCluer.	No. fourteen, in the third Range No. fifty-five joining Pemegewasette and Middle Intervale.	No. thirty eight, north side Baker's River.	No. thirty five Lower Intervale
Abel Webster.	Large lot No. four, at the lower end of the town joining the Lower Intervale.	No. thirty, north side Baker's River.	No. thirty two. Lower Intervale
Ebenezer Hartshorn.	No. thirty two, north side of Bakers River. No. ten first Range.	No. fifty one, north side of Bakers River.	No. twenty six Lower Intervale
William Cummings.	No. six, first Range. No. eleven second Range.	No. four, horse pasture Upper Intervale.	No thirty one Lower Intervale
Jonathan Hobart.	No. one, in the fourth Range. No. fifty nine, joining the Upper Intervale Pemegewasette River	No. three, north side of Bakers River.	No. nineteen, Lower Intervale
Benjamin Parker.	No. eight, Bakers River Range. No. thirteen, fourth Range.	No. twelve, south side of Bakers River.	No. fourteen, Lower Intervale.
Samuel Thompson.	No. three, in Bakers River Range. No. eleven, in the fourth Range.	No. six, north side of Bakers River.	
Josiah Brown.	Large lot No. three, at the lower end of the town joining the Lower Intervale.	No. thirty two, north side of Bakers River.	No. thirty eight, Lower Intervale
Elnathan Blood.	No. seventeen, on Bakers River Range No. two, third Range.	No. eighteen south side of Bakers River.	No. sixteen, Lower Intervale
Moses Merrill.	No. fifty two, lying on the West end of the fifty acre lot No. thirty seven, which joins Pemg river. No. seven, third Range.	No. six in the horse pasture or Upper Intervale on the Pemegewasette River	

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	TWO FIFTY ACRE LOTS OF UPLAND	ONE SIXTEEN ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL	ONE 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL
Zachariah Parker.	{ No. twelve, Bakers River Range No. five, second Range.	No. sixteen, south side of Bakers River.	No. forty two, Lower Inter- vale.
Amos Phillips.	{ No. twenty eight, north side Bakers River, joining the Goveners farm No. eight, first Range.	No. fifty five, north side Bakers River.	No. forty eight, Lower Inter- vale
John Willoughby.	{ No. nine, on Bakers River Range No. five, fourth Range.	No. thirteen, south Side Bakers River.	No. twenty eight Lower Inter- vale
David Wright.	{ No. twenty two, Bakers River Range. No. four, second Range.	No. twenty one south side Bakers River.	No. forty three Lower Inter- vale.
Thomas McCluer.	{ No. thirty three, north side Bakers River. No. eleven, in the first Range	No. fifty, north side of Bakers River.	No. twenty one Lower Inter- vale
David Hobart.	{ Large lot No. one, at the lower end of the town joining the Lower Inter- vale	No. thirty one, north side of Bakers River.	No. thirty seven Lower Inter- vale
Samuel Cummings of Dunstable.	{ No. Nineteen, in Bakers River Range. No. one, in the second Range	No. twenty, south side of Bakers River.	No. nine, Lower Intervale
Abner Keyes.	{ No. five third Range. No. eleven, in Bakers River Range	No. fifteen, south side Bakers River.	No. eleven, Lower Inter- vale
John Brown.	{ No. twenty nine, north side of Bakers River. No. nine, first Range.	No. fifty four, north side Bakers River.	No. fifty one, Lower Inter- vale.
John Harvell.	{ No. thirty one, north side of Bakers River. No. fifteen, second Range.	No. fifty two, north side Bakers River.	No. fifty two, Lower Inter- vale.
James Hobart.	{ No. two, in Bakers River R. No. twelve, fourth Range.	No. five, north side of Bakers River	No. fifty three Lower Inter- vale.
Matthew Patten.	{ No. five, in the first Range. No. eleven, third Range.	No. forty, north side Bakers River.	
Peter Hobart.	{ No. twenty one, Bakers River No. three, second Range.	No. forty one, north side Bakers River.	No. forty five, Lower Inter- vale

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	TWO FIFTY ACRE LOTS OF UPLAND	ONE SIXTEEN ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL	ONE 5½ ACRE LOT OF INTERVAL
Jacob Hildreth.	No. eighteen, in Bakers River Range No. forty one, joining on the east of the second Range.	No. nineteen, south side of Bakers River.	
Oliver Parker.	No. fifteen, first Range. No. thirteen, second Range.	No. twenty nine, south side Bakers River.	No. four, middle Intervale.
Joseph Smith.	No. twenty in Bakers River R. No. two, second Range.	No. forty two, north side Bakers River.	No. thirty four Lower Intervale
Francis Powers.	No. thirty four, north side Bakers River. No. forty four, on the east side of the fifty lot No. forty two, that joins fourth Range	No. forty nine, north side Bakers River.	No. forty nine Lower Intervale
William Nutting.	No. five, Bakers River Range No. nine, fourth range	No. seven, north side of Bakers River.	
Meseheh Weare, Esq.	No. four, Bakers River Range. No. ten, fourth Range.	No. ten, south side of Bakers River.	
William Temple, Esq.	No. ten, Bakers River Range. No. four, fourth Range.	No. fourteen, South side of Bakers River	
Nathaniel Garfield.	No. three and twelve, in the third range fifty acre lot of Upland No. two in the horse pasture or Upper Intervale on Pemegewasette is a sixteen acre lot of Intervale.		
Theodore Atkinson.	Equal to the first division is laid out two hundred and forty acres in a large lot in the Gore south of the Pond.		
Theodore Atkinson, Jr. Esq.	Equal to the first Division is laid out two hundred and forty acres in a large lot No. two in the Gore south of the Pond.		
Incorporated Society Right.	Equal to the first Division is laid out two hundred and forty acres in a large lot No. five in the Gore south of the Pond.		
Glebe or Church Right.	Equal to the first Division is laid out two hundred acres in a large Lot No. six in the Gore south of the Pond.		
School Right.	Equal to the first Division is laid out two hundred and thirty acres in a large lot No. one in the Gore south of the Pond.		
Ministers Right.	No. six, in the fourth Range. No. two, in the first Range Upland fifty acre lots.		
James Cowen.	Proprietors Property.		
Thomas Davis.	Proprietors Property.		
Phinehas Lund.	Proprietors Property.		

NAME OF PROPRIETOR	
Governors' Two Rights.	{ Part of which is laid out in the north east corner of the Town, north of Bakers River and joining on Pemegewasette River. (The remainder was laid out when the second Division was laid out and lies in different places in town. See the record of the second division.)
Meeting house lot.	{ No. three in the first Range. Reserved by proprietors.
Mill lots.	{ No. fifteen and sixteen, in Bakers River Range. Reserved by proprietors.

To avoid the confusion of frequent changes, the proprietors of Plymouth, following a custom prevailing in other towns, continued the record of each right or share in the name of the original grantee. Several of the grantees early sold their interest or share in the propriety and others died. Thus many of the original rights in a short time were owned by successors who attended the meetings of the proprietors and had a vote in the association. Whenever money was raised for the use of the proprietors, it was assessed in the name of the original proprietor and paid by the successor in ownership. In the same manner, in subsequent divisions of land, the lots were drawn in the name of the original grantee, but became the sole property of the successor. From first to last there were sixty persons entitled to a vote in the meetings of the proprietors, and a deed of a right in the common or undivided land obtained from an original grantee or his assigns was the credential of admission and the right of voting. Whenever a proprietor sold one or more of the lots which had been drawn and assigned to him, the sale did not interrupt his membership in the association or his interest in the common land.

After the first draft of land, in 1763, the proprietors from time to time sold tracts of land to meet the current expenses of the association. On account of the disturbance of the Revolution and other causes, it was over twenty years before a second division of land was ordered. At a meeting assembled Oct. 26, 1784, the proprietors voted:—

To lay out all the common land upon the southerly side of Newfound pond and as much other common land as with said land on the southerly side of said pond, will make two fifty acre lots to a right.

That Lieut. Josiah Brown, Lieut. Elisha Bean and Mr Samuel Marsh be a committee to lay out said lots

June 14, 1788:—

Voted that Mr. James Blodgett be a committee man in the room of Lieut. Josiah Brown, deceased to join with the surveying committee men, namely, Lieut Elisha Bean and Samuel Marsh to lay out the land already voted to be laid out.

At a meeting assembled at the house of Col. David Webster, Nov. 25, 1788, the committee made a report and submitted a plan of the fifty-acre lots. Capt. Jotham Cummings was the surveyor. The lots were drawn at this meeting. There were also laid out at this time lots Nos. 3 to 22 in the first, and 4 and 5 in the second range, which were not drawn.

In the following record of lots drawn, the figures represent number of the lot, the words first, second, third, etc., the number of the range, and N. and S. for north or south of Newfound Lake.

Joseph Blanchard 14 in third, 19 in second, S.

William Read 21 in second 15 in third S.

Oliver Lawrence 10 in second 11 in second N.

William Nevins 10 in third, N. 10 in third S.

Onesiphereus Marsh 1 and 12 in broken range

Samuel Goodhue 9 in first and 1 in second N.

Samuel Cummings Esq. 5 in second 5 in third N.

Samuel Hale 1 in fourth 13 in third S.

Joseph Warner 8 in fourth 14 in fifth N.

Daniel Emerson Jun. 2 in second S. 6 in second N.

Thomas Merrill 4 in third 4 in fourth N.

Stephen Powers 6 in first, 7 in first N.

Elnathan Blood Jun. 8 in second N. 13 in second S.

John Willoughby Jun. 2 in third 12 in second S.

Ebenezer Cummings 13 in first 7 in fourth N.

Richard Pierce 1 in first 2 in first S.

Jonas Keyes 20 in second 15 in third S.

John Hobart 15 in first 16 in first N.
 John Phelps 8 in second 4 in third S.
 Jotham Cummings 9 in seventeenth 10 in seventeenth N.
 Gershom Hobart 8 in third 9 in third S.
 James Underwood 3 in eighth 4 in eighth N.
 Nahum Powers 9 in second 3 in first N.
 Jonathan Johnson 1 in fifth 4 in fifth N.
 Stephen Ames 7 in seventh 8 in seventh N.
 James Nahor 1 in third 11 in second S.
 William McCluer 1 in third 1 in fourth N.
 Abel Webster 5 in fourth 4 in seventh N.
 Ebenezer Hartshorn 10 in fourth 3 in seventh N.
 William Cummings 2 in second 3 in second N.

and also a tract of 70 acres below Francis Worcesters farm, on
 the New Chester line.

Jonathan Hobart 22 in second 17 in third S.
 Benjamin Parker 6 in fourth 6 in seventh N.
 Samuel Thompson 2 in fourth 3 in fourth N.
 Josiah Brown 12 in fourth N. 12 in third S.
 Elnathan Blood 5 in third 14 in second S.
 Moses Merrill 4 in second 2 in third N.
 Zachariah Parker 8 in broken range, 17 in first N.
 Amos Phillips 6 in second S. 7 in second N.
 John Willoughby 4 and 5 in broken range
 David Wright 14 in fourth N. 21 in third S.
 Thomas McCluer 2 in fourth 3 in fourth S
 David Hobart 6 and 7 in broken range
 Samuel Cummings of Dunstable 1 in eighth 2 in eighth N.
 Abner Keyes 11 in first N. 15 in second S.
 John Brown 13 in broken range 11 in third N.
 John Harvel 8 in third N. 18 in second S.
 James Hobart 7 in third N. 17 in second S.
 Matthew Patten Esq. 8 in first 12 in first N.
 Francis Powers 2 and 9 in broken range
 Peter Hobart 4 in first 5 in first N.
 William Nutting 13 in fourth N. 20 in third S.
 Nathaniel Garfield 9 in third N. 16 in second S.
 Jacob Hildreth 11 in fourth 2 in seventh N.
 Oliver Parker 10 in first 5 in seventh N.
 Hon. Theodore Atkinson Esq. 9 in fourth 1 in seventeenth N.
 William Temple Esq 2 in fifth 3 in fifth N.
 Theodore Atkinson Jun. Esq 7 in second 3 in third S.

Meshech Weare Esq 3 and 10 in broken range
Col. Joseph Smith 5 in eighth 6 in eighth N.
David Nevins 3 in third 2 in fifth N.

The privileged rights exempt from taxation drew the following lots:—

Benning Wentworth 18 in third 19 in third S.
Benning Wentworth 6 in third N. 11 in third S.
School Right 1 in second 3 in second S.
Incorporated Society 6 in third 7 in third S.
Glebe 9 in second 10 in second S
First Settled Minister 11 and 14 in broken range

To satisfy the demands of five rights, on account of an inequality of the draft in 1763, the committee laid out six large lots at the extreme southern limit of the township. These lots were numbered on the map one to six. They were donated by the proprietors as follows:—

No. one, 230 acres to the School Right
No. two, 240 acres to Theodore Atkinson Jun.
No. three, 240 acres reserved by the proprietors
No. four, 240 acres to Theodore Atkinson
No. five, 240 acres to Incorporated Society
No. Six, 200 acres to The Glebe

IV. THE PROPRIETORS.

THE Masonian Proprietors purchased the claim of John Tufton Mason July 30, 1746. The Mason patent was triangular in form and was bounded on the south by the province line, extending from the sea west sixty miles, and on the eastern line of the province north sixty miles. The third side of the triangle connected the western and the northern termini. In familiar and present terms the patent was bounded on the south by Massachusetts, on the east by Maine and by a line extending northeasterly from Rindge to Conway. The new proprietors quit-claimed all right, if any they had, to the established towns within their domain, and were liberal in the acknowledgment and adjustment of the rights of many settlers in unincorporated places. Taking advantage of the nominal suspension of hostilities which succeeded the truce of Aix la Chapelle, they granted many townships before the war was renewed in 1754. It became a work of necessity to locate and establish the northwestern line of their domain. Beginning at a point in the State line in the town of Rindge, the line was run to the Pemigewasset River in 1751. The line crossed Sunapee Lake and Newfound Lake and extended on the north line of the present town of Bridgewater to the Pemigewasset. It was the dividing line between New Chester and Plymouth as these towns were originally granted. The surveyor who established this line in 1751 was Joseph Blanchard, one of the grantees of Plymouth and a resident of Merrimack, Thornton, and Amherst. Among his assistants was Lieut. Josiah Brown, one of the pioneers of this town, and among the early settlers it is possible that it was he whose foot first pressed the soil of Plymouth.

From the close of the French and Indian War to the Revolution was an era of peace and enterprise. The conquest of Canada brought that region into friendly relations with New Hampshire and the other English Colonies of New England. The hostile incursions of the Indians and the fear of predatory raids no longer delayed the occupancy of new territory and the settlement of new towns. In those days all were tillers of the soil. The ministers, lawyers, and doctors, the merchants, carpenters, and blacksmiths were also farmers. Whenever a township became wholly occupied with farms and no wild land remained, such towns were said to be full, and the young men removed to new settlements where wild land was cheap and the cleared farm was the product of their own labor. Under such conditions farms were multiplied with the increase of the population and new territory was in constant demand. During years of war and a suspension of immigration the population of many towns had become congested. With peace came an unprecedented demand for new territory, and petitions for townships rapidly accumulated. These were palmy days for Gov. Benning Wentworth and an active season for the tripod and the chain. Townships were surveyed in New Hampshire and in Vermont, then claimed by New Hampshire, in great number. Within the present county of Grafton were granted in 1761 Lebanon, Hanover, Enfield, Cockermouth, Dorchester, Canaan, Lyme, Orford, Bath, Rumney, Campton, and Lyman. Holderness, which was granted during the suspension of hostilities in 1751, was regranted the same year.

Early in the year 1763 the original township of Plymouth was an unnamed part of the king's wood and ungranted land. However, it was surrounded by other grants and all its bounding lines were established and defined. It must be borne in mind that since this date the boundaries of Plymouth and the surrounding towns have been changed, and that Bridgewater, Hebron, and Bristol were not original grants but were severed from older towns. This tract of ungranted land was bounded on the north

by Campton and on the east by Holderness. The remaining lines are traced by beginning at the southeast corner at a point on the Pemigewasset which is still the southeast corner of this town, and following the Masonian patent line southwest eleven miles bounding on New Chester and Alexandria, as these towns existed in 1763, to a point in the original line of Alexandria at the southeast corner of Cardigan; thence northeasterly by the line of Cardigan six miles to the southeast corner of Cockermouth; thence nearly in the same direction by the line of Cockermouth five miles and one-half to the southwest corner of Campton. At this date Cardigan had been surveyed, its bounds established, and it bore the name of Cardigan, but for some reason it was not granted until 1769. At all other points this tract of ungranted land was bounded by chartered towns.

The untamed Plymouth was waiting in the wilderness. Her only history was the story of Baker's fight, and her only respites from solitude were the hurried marches of explorers or the passing surveyors of near by towns. But nature saw the compass and the chain and her slumber was broken. To her these were the heralds of approaching men. The passing soldier faded in the distance and was forgotten, but the surveyor left the promise of homes and habitation. With bursting throats the song-birds sang a welcome to the approaching pioneers, the untilled earth, rich with the stores of future harvests, rejoiced in the promise of sowing and reaping. The wolves planned many campaigns on future sheepfolds, while reynard, between the feasts of his dreams, made many excursions toward Hollis to discover if the chickens were on the way, and each balmy day the honeybee, emblem of thrift, was humming over fields where the sweet clover would grow, or seeking sunny places for cabins and sheltered nooks for the husk-braided hive. The solitude was broken, and meanwhile the sturdy men of Hollis, responding to the summons of the awakened wilderness, were maturing their preparations for an early removal.

The proceedings of the preliminary meetings of the men who

became grantees or proprietors of Plymouth are unknown. It is easy to assume that many conferences were held and several journeys to Portsmouth were made, but speculation and conjecture have no place in history. It is an important fact in the history of Plymouth that the grantees were in possession and laid out house lots several months before the date of the charter. The record of the first meeting follows:—

At a meeting of the Propriators of a New Town ship on Pemigewasset River met at the house of Benjamin Parker, innholder in Dunstable February 17, 1763.

Voted David Hobart, moderator.

Voted Abel Webster, clerk

Voted to Lay out the enterval on Pemigewasset River into proper Lotts, Each mans Right his Proportion for Quantity and Quality as Near as may bee

Voted Maj^r Blanchard be a Surveyor to Lay out the Lotts.

Voted Ensign Josiah Brown and Ensign David Hobart be a Committee to Qualify the Lotts with the Surveyor.

Voted Elnathan Blood, John Willoughby Jun. and William McCluere be Chainmen for Laying out the Lotts.

Voted David Hobart and Josiah Brown be a Committee to agree with a Surveyor to Lay out the Lotts in case Maj^r Blanchard should fail.

After votes fixing the pay of each person employed and a vote to raise money for current expenses, the meeting was adjourned to the first Tuesday in April, 1763. In the meantime the first survey of lots had been completed, and at the adjourned meeting two committees were chosen and instructed in their duties:—

Voted that Joseph Blanchard, Samuel Cummings and John Hale be a committee to prepair the Lotts in order for Drawing and that Daniel Emerson and Samuel Willoughby be the persons to Draw the Lotts.

Voted, David Hobart, Elnathan Blood and Samuel Cummings be a Committee of this Propriaty to Lay out the Remainder of the enterval that Remained, to be equeally Devided for Quantity and Quality as near as they can; and for the two Lotts to be Laid out to each Share containing one hundred acres Which is to be Don by the Last Day of June next, cupled and Redy for Drawing, that those persons who go to work there this spring be employed in said work. Except a surveyor whom they are to procure as also other help that shall be thought needful.

There is evidence that the services of Joseph Blanchard could not be secured in surveying the first division of lots in Plymouth and that Matthew Patten of Bedford, one of the proprietors, surveyed the five-and-one-half-acre lots of interval. Mr. Patten and Mr. Blanchard were employed in surveying other lots during the year, for which Mr. Blanchard charged the proprietors £1437 Old Tenor and Mr. Patten £542 Old Tenor.

In the journal of Matthew Patten are found the following entries:—

Feb. 19, 1763. In the afternoon Ensen Hubbard [Hobart] and William McClure came to have me go with them up to Bakers river to survey and I went and Changed snow Shoes with John Bell in order to sit out.

March 11, 1763. I set out with William McClure for Pemitchawassett and Lodged at Capt Fowlers.

March 12 1763 I Joyned the rest of the Company at Pennykook, being Ensign Brown and Hobart, Messrs. Elnathan Blood and John Willable and tarried there over the Sabbath at Mrs. Osgoods.

March 14, 1763 we set out and lodged about 12 miles from Pennykook, at Mr. Tho' Foses.

March 15, 1763 we arrived about 4 or 5 mile above the Crotch of the river

March 16, 1763 we campt about $\frac{1}{2}$ way over the 2 mile Carrieing place.

March 17, 1763 we arrived at the Intervale and Campt.

March 29, 1763. I finished laying out 60 lotts Containing about 347 acres in the Intervale on Pemitchewassett

March 30 1763 we set out for home and came to the Crotch of the river and lay at a logging camp.

March 31, 1763 We came to Mr. Henry Lovejoys and lay there.

April 1, 1763 Set out at half an hour past 2 in the morning and came home that Evening about sunset I was out 19 days. We got as much by hunting as we shared 4-2-6 pr man.

The first meeting, held Feb. 17, 1763, adjourned to meet the last Wednesday in June. There is no record of a meeting in June, and the next meeting was called on a new warrant and was assembled at the inn of Benjamin Parker in Dunstable, Tuesday, Aug. 2, 1763. At the date of this meeting the charter

had been received and the legal title to the township was completed.

Each of these early meetings was a mile-stone in the preparation for removal to Plymouth. At the meeting Aug. 2, 1763, Samuel Cummings was chosen proprietors' clerk, and probably he made the original minutes of the meeting. During the following year a record book was purchased, and the proceedings of all the meetings until 1781 were engrossed by Abel Webster. The meeting chose Joseph Blanchard, John Hale, and David Hobart assessors and Abel Webster collector. An assessment was made on each right. Then the proprietors voted that David Hobart, Elnathan Blood, and William Nevins be a committee to prosecute the survey of lots to be completed in September. The same committee was instructed "to send persons to view a place for a road from the mouth of Smith's river to the lower end of the intervale and when the men return home to open out the small stuff so as horses can travel." This committee was also instructed to reserve land for a mill and arrange with some person for building it.

At a meeting held at the inn of Benjamin Parker Oct. 24, and continued by adjournment Nov. 14, 1763, the proprietors elected John Hale moderator and clerk, Abel Webster collector, John Hale, Stephen Webster, and John Brown assessors of a special assessment which was voted at this meeting. Stephen Powers, William Read, and Deacon Samuel Goodhue were chosen auditors.

At the date of the charter Maj. Joseph Blanchard of Merrimack was a member of the provincial assembly representing Merrimack and Monson. He was the agent of the applicants for a township, and submitted their petition to Governor Wentworth. When the charter was received it was claimed by a majority of the grantees that Major Blanchard had added six names to a list previously agreed upon. At the meeting in November, 1763, it was voted "Whereas Maj. Joseph Blanchard has put in the charter six rights contrary to agreement, that a committee be

chosen to settle with him," and John Hale, David Hobart, and William Nevins were selected to confer with Major Blanchard. Probably in a spirit of compromise they agreed upon a surrender of four of the six disputed rights, and Major Blanchard gave the proprietors a written conveyance of the rights of James Cowan, Phineas Lund, Thomas Davis, and Nathaniel Garfield. For some reason Nathaniel Garfield refused to join in this arrangement, and hence only three rights were surrendered. The remaining rights that were challenged are not known. This business apparently was adjusted without bitterness, and Major Blanchard was soon employed to survey the greater part of the township. Then the proprietors by vote admitted to the propriety David Nevins, and the number of sixty proprietors was never changed. At an early date William McClure forfeited his right in neglect to pay the dues, but he was promptly restored. According to his custom, Gov. Benning Wentworth caused to be engrossed on the back of the original charter a reservation of five hundred acres, to be located in the northeast corner of the township, and which was to be accounted as two rights. There was also a reservation of one right or share each to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, for glebe for the Church of England, for the first settled minister, and for a school in said town. These six rights were declared free of taxes. In the charter there were sixty-two grantees. Three were excluded and one was admitted by vote of the proprietors. Before any division of land was made among the proprietors, each grantee owned one undivided sixty-sixth of the township and was assessable for one-sixtieth of the money expended by the associated proprietors.

The summer and autumn of 1763 was a memorable season in the history of Plymouth. The surveyors, the axemen, and the chainmen were here several months, and committees of supervision made several visits to the place. It would be unnatural to assume that many of those who were proposing to remove hither did not visit the site of their future homes, and that

other grantees did not come to estimate the value of their new possessions.

During the summer and autumn Joseph Blanchard surveyed the fifty-acre lots of upland, and in June and September Matthew Patten surveyed the sixteen-acre lots of interval. The following passages from Mr. Patten's journal are of interest:—

May 17, 1763. Ensign David Hobart came to my house and agreed for me to go to Pemitchawesett in about a fortnight.

June 7, 1763. I set out for Pemitchawesett in company with Tho^r Lund Jun^r to survey and I arrived at Pennykook the next day noon, and I got 20½ lb Pork and paid for it I got a half a bushell of corn from John Chandler which John Bell bot for me last faull and ground it and I arived there on Saturday afternoon.

There are no entries in his journal until June 13, when he was at his home in Bedford.

Sept. 22 1763 I set out for Plymouth to Survey and lodged at Mrs. Osgoods [Concord] and did not return home untill the 16th of next November being eight weeks in Which time I got 10lb of Beaver by catching while I was out.

The surveying for the present is completed and all the men at Plymouth return to their homes for the winter. One hundred and twenty fifty-acre lots of upland and sixty sixteen-acre lots and sixty five-and-one-half-acre lots of interval have been surveyed and numbered.

The lots were drawn Dec. 20, 1763. By this proceeding each proprietor became the sole owner of two lots of upland and one lot of sixteen acres and one five-and-one-half-acre lot of interval, and each still owned his share of the common or undivided land remaining.

In the narratives of the settlement of Plymouth there is no suggestion that any one remained in the town during the winter following the summer of 1763, but it has been intimated that probably some of the men who came in 1764 had begun a clearing and probably had erected a cabin the previous year. If so, on whose land were such improvements made? The whole town-

ship belonged to an association, and no one in his sole right owned one inch of land until the first distribution was made in December, 1763.

The proprietors of Plymouth were assembled on a winter day at Parker's inn in Dunstable. They had been assessed to pay for the charter and the cost of surveying and were now to be compensated in a distribution of land. From a common property each was to receive a share. Before proceeding to a general distribution, the proprietors voted certain tracts of choice land to Ensign David Hobart, Ensign Josiah Brown, and Abel Webster. Having provided for these worthy men, all the others proceeded to a division by chance and the fickle wheel of fortune. Since the time of Jonah the drawing of lots has been a business of interest. In one receptacle were cards each bearing the name of a proprietor, and in another were the same number of cards each bearing the numbers of two lots of interval and two lots of upland. From one receptacle Daniel Emerson drew a card and announced the name of a proprietor; at the same time Samuel Willoughby drew a card assigning to that proprietor four lots of land. If the proceeding was exciting, it presented a serious feature. The location of a home, the choice of a farm, and the character of a neighborhood were at stake. At this meeting it was ordered that in case any proprietor drew lots inferior to the average, he should receive additional land, and at a subsequent meeting it was voted that Jotham Cummings might throw up one of his fifty-acre lots, "it not being fit to settle on," and that he should have fifty acres out of the common land.

The meeting was continued by adjournment to Jan. 3, 1764, when it was voted that there be purchased "two sets of Mill irons, one for a corn mill and one for a saw mill." Onesiphorus Marsh was delegated "to go to peneycook and speak for the said irons within this Fortnight." The next meeting of the proprietors was held at the house of Samuel Cummings, innholder in Hollis, April 16, 1764. John Hale was the moderator and Stephen Webster and Stephen Powers were instructed to audit

the accounts of the treasurer. At once the attention of the meeting was directed to Plymouth, the future home of many of the men here assembled. First they determined to spend ten days' labor in repairing the road from Salisbury to Plymouth, and requested Ensign Josiah Brown to oversee the work. Next enterprise stole into the meeting and persuaded them to instruct "Ensign David Hobart, Ensign Josiah Brown and Mr. William Nevins to agree with some person or persons to build a saw mill and a grist mill at Plymouth the ensuing summer."

And then piety and devotion, with an unspoken prayer for the future welfare of wives, children, and themselves, found expression in a vote "to hire Mr Nathan Ward to preach four days in Plymouth this spring." This vote was the praise of a doxology. The meeting then adjourned.

It was a busy winter in Hollis and in several families in the near-by towns. The men were making implements of husbandry, and the women were spinning and weaving and fashioning garments for men, women, and children. The shoemaker came and sat by the kitchen fire, adding boots and shoes to the accumulating stores in preparation. In the spring many men were going to Plymouth, and when the planting and sowing was done and a habitation was prepared, the women and children would join them, and a new Hollis would spring up in the valley of the Pemigewasset.

The charter of Plymouth is found in another chapter. The sixty-two original grantees were:—

1. Joseph Blanchard, born in Dunstable April 28, 1729, son of Col. Joseph and Rebecca (Hubbard) Blanchard. He lived in Merrimack, Thornton, and Amherst. He represented Merrimack and Monson in the provincial assembly, 1762–1765, and was a selectman and town officer of Merrimack. He was a noted surveyor, and rendered valuable assistance in the preparation of the province map, 1771. He was employed by the proprietors, 1763, in laying out lots in this town.

2. William Read, born Chelmsford, Mass., Feb. 25, 1724, son

of William and Hannah (Bates) Read. He married Lucy Spalding and settled in Litchfield, and for him Reed's Ferry was named. He was a selectman and a colonel. He was killed at a raising in Litchfield. He sold his right to Amaziah Pollard, 1764.

3. Oliver Lawrence, born Groton, Mass., March 18, 1728/9, son of Deacon Peleg Lawrence of Groton and Pepperell, Mass. He married, Dec. 27, 1752, Mary Cummings, born April 22, 1734, daughter of Samuel and Prudence (Lawrence) Cummings of Hollis. He settled in Hollis, where he was a selectman, one of the committee of safety, and a soldier in the Revolution. He died in Hollis April 2, 1797.

4. William Nevins, born 1718, lived in Monson and Hollis. See family register in Vol. II.

5. Onesipherus Marsh, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

6. Samuel Goodhue, born April 6, 1696, son of Deacon Joseph Goodhue of Ipswich, Mass. He married Abigail Bartlett and lived in Stratham, Nottingham, and after about 1740 in Hollis. He was a deacon. He died Nov. 7, 1785.

7. Samuel Cummings, born March 6, 1709; lived in Hollis. See family register.

8. Samuel Hale, born Bradford, Mass., 1734, son of Jonathan and Susannah (Tuttle) Hale and a brother of Colonel and Dr. John Hale of Hollis. He was a physician and settled in Orford soon after the date of the charter. He sold his right to Dr. John Hale, 1766.

9. Joseph Warner, probably lived near Portsmouth. He sold his right in 1763 to Abel Webster, who sold the same to Col. David Webster April 13, 1764.

10. Daniel Emerson, born Hollis, Dec. 15, 1746, son of Rev. Daniel Emerson. He was the son of the minister of Hollis and for that reason his youth did not exclude him from membership in the association of the proprietors. He lived in Hollis, where he died Oct. 4, 1820.

11. Thomas Merrill, born 1729, son of Deacon John Merrill

of Concord. He lived in Concord, Pembroke, and Conway. He was four times married, and through life a prominent man of his time. In 1763 he was styled of Pembroke. He sold his right to Ebenezer Little, 1765.

12. Stephen Powers, born Oct. 28, 1729, son of Capt. Peter and Anna (Keyes) Powers and brother of Rev. Peter Powers. He married, Jan. 5, 1757, Lucy Cummings, born April 18, 1737, daughter of Deacon William and Lucy (Colburn) Cummings. He lived in Hollis.

13. Elnathan Blood, born Dec. 4, 1744, son of Elnathan and Elizabeth (Boynton) Blood of Hollis. He married, June 5, 1766, Deborah Phelps and lived in Hollis. See No. 37.

14. John Willoughby, born 1735, settled in Plymouth. See family register. Son of No. 41.

15. Ebenezer Cummings, born April 17, 1735, son of Deacon William and Lucy (Colburn) Cummings. He married Elizabeth Abbot and lived in Hollis. He died in the army June 1, 1778, leaving eight children.

16. Richard Pierce, born Jan. 8, 1739, son of Ebenezer Pierce of Groton; married, May 22, 1766, Susannah Jewett. He lived in Hollis.

17. Jonas Keyes, born about 1730; settled in Plymouth. See family register.

18. John Hobart, born Groton, Mass., March 30, 1731, son of Gershom and Lydia (Nutting) Hobart. He settled in Cocker-mouth. His right was subsequently owned by Josiah Brown.

19. John Phelps was of Hollis, living in the region of One Pine Hill, where he died. He sold his right, 1764, to Ebenezer Hartshorn.

20. Jotham Cummings, born Dec. 29, 1741; settled in Plymouth. See family register.

21. Gershom Hobart, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

22. James Underwood, born Westford, Mass., 1731, son of Joseph Underwood. He lived in Litchfield and was foremost in the affairs of the town, a representative to the provincial assembly

and to the House of Representatives and a justice of the county court. He sold his right to Ebenezer Hartshorn, 1765.

23. Nahum Powers, born Hollis, April 11, 1741, son of Capt. Peter Powers. He settled in Plymouth. See family register.

24. Jonathan Johnson, lived in Hollis. He married in Westford, Mass., July 4, 1754, Sarah Bates, daughter of Edward and Mary (Snow) Bates. He sold his whole right in the township to Abel Webster Nov. 18, 1763. Abel Webster sold the same to Col. David Webster April 13, 1764.

25. James Cowan of Merrimack surrendered his interest in the charter.

26. Stephen Ames, born Boxford, Mass., Sept. 1, 1712, son of John and Priscilla (Kimball) Ames. The family removed to Groton, Mass., in 1717, where John, the father, was killed by the Indians July 24, 1726. The son Stephen married, April 14, 1731, Jane Robbins and removed, 1739, from Groton to Hollis. He was a soldier in the French and Indian War, selectman, and representative. He was a cousin of Capt. Jeremiah Eames of Northumberland. His son Stephen, born 1739, settled in Cocker-mouth. He sold his right to Dr. John Hall, 1765.

27. Phineas Lund, born April 3, 1723, son of Thomas Lund of Dunstable, surrendered his right in the township.

28. James Nahor was a prominent citizen of Litchfield, a selectman, and many years foremost in town affairs. He sold his right, 1763, to Abel Webster, who sold it to Col. David Webster.

29. William McClure lived in Dunstable, and he or a son William later lived in Merrimack.

30. Abel Webster, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

31. Ebenezer Hartshorn, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

32. William Cummings, born Oct. 2, 1741, son of Deacon William and Lucy (Colburn) Cummings of Hollis (see Nos. 12 and 15). He was a school teacher, town clerk, and selectman of Hollis. He married Mehitable Eastman, and in 1790 removed to Hebron, where he died. He sold his right to Abel Webster, 1764.

33. Jonathan Hobart, born Groton, Mass., son of Gershom and

Lydia (Nutting) Hobart. He lived in Hollis. He sold his right to Col. David Hobart, who sold the same, April 30, 1764, to Col. David Webster.

34. Benjamin Parker, born Aug. 19, 1719, son of Benjamin and Mary (Sawtell) Parker of Groton. He married Alice Woods and lived in Hollis, where he died Feb. 7, 1802. His right was owned by Benjamin Wright and later by Abel Webster.

35. Samuel Thompson lived in Londonderry. He sold his right to James Ryan, who settled in this town.

36. Josiah Brown, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

37. Elnathan Blood, married in Groton, Mass., Nov. 26, 1741, Elizabeth Boynton; lived in Dunstable and Hollis. Eight children. He sold his right, 1765, to Ebenezer Little, then of Newburyport, Mass.

38. Moses Merrill, born Salisbury, Mass., Oct. 28, 1707. See Merrill register. In 1763 he was residing in Haverhill, Mass. His son Jacob settled in Plymouth.

39. Zachariah Parker, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

40. Amos Phillips, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

41. John Willoughby, lived in Hollis, where he died Feb. 2, 1793. See family register. His right was subsequently owned by Joseph Blanchard, Abel Webster, and David Webster.

42. David Wright, born Groton, Mass., Aug. 19, 1735, son of Samuel and Hannah (Lawrence) Wright; married, Dec. 24, 1761, Prudence Cummings, daughter of Samuel Cummings (No. 7). He lived in Pepperell, Mass. See Cummings register, Vol. II. He sold his right, 1764, to Abel Webster.

43. Thomas McClure, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

44. David Hobart, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

45. Samuel Cummings, born Westford, Mass., Sept. 16, 1718, son of John and Elizabeth (Adams) Cummings. He married, Oct. 2, 1741, Sarah Spalding and removed, 1757, to Dunstable and in 1773 to Cornish, where he died June 6, 1796.

46. Abner Keyes, born Chelmsford, Mass., 1738, son of Ezekiel Keyes and brother of Jonas Keyes (No. 17). He married, Dec. 30, 1763, Mary Shedd, born Billerica, Mass., July 4, 1743, daughter of William and Mary (Farmer) Shedd. He lived a few years in Rumney and after 1792 in Hancock, where he died 1819.

47. John Brown, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

48. John Harvell, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

49. James Hobart, settled in Plymouth. See family register.

50. Matthew Patten, born in Ireland May 19, 1719, settled in Bedford 1738; representative, councillor, and Judge of Probate. He was a surveyor and was employed by the proprietors of Plymouth in the summer and autumn of 1763. Joseph Blanchard was the principal surveyor of this town. Mr. Patten surveyed Piermont and other towns in this county. He married Elizabeth McMurphy, daughter of John McMurphy of Londonderry. He died suddenly in a field in Bedford Aug. 27, 1795.

51. Francis Powers, born Hollis July 15, 1745, son of Capt. Peter Powers and brother of No. 12. He married, May 5, 1763, Elizabeth Cummings, born Jan. 1, 1743, daughter of Deacon William and Lucy (Colburn) Cummings (see No. 15). He lived in Hollis. He sold his right to Ephraim Keyes.

52. Peter Hobart, son of Col. David Hobart; settled in Plymouth. See family register.

53. William Nutting, born Groton, Mass., Nov. 20, 1712, son of Jonathan and Mary (Green) Nutting. He married, Jan. 18, 1737/8, Jane Boynton. He lived in Groton, Mass., where he died June 2, 1776.

54. Thomas Davis, lived near Litchfield.

55. Nathaniel Garfield. He was a resident of Merrimack. He sold his right to Samuel Livermore.

56. Jacob Hildreth, born Litchfield May 12, 1739, son of Jacob and Abigail Hildreth; he married Mary Shepard, born Sept. 21, 1749, daughter of Col. John Shepard. He settled in Amherst, where he died Sept. 13, 1815. He sold his right to Joseph Blanchard and Blanchard sold it to Abel Webster.

57. Oliver Parker. There were two men of this name and about the same age living in Groton. One of them removed to Stoddard and was a loyalist in the Revolution.

58. Theodore Atkinson, born New Castle Dec. 20, 1697, son of Theodore Atkinson, who was councillor, 1716. He married, Sept. 4, 1732, Hannah (Wentworth) Plaisted, daughter of Lieut.-Gov. John Wentworth and widow of Samuel Plaisted. He was secretary of the province. He died Sept. 22, 1779. His only son was Theodore Atkinson (No. 60).

59. William Temple, born Ten Hills, Mass., about 1732, son of Robert and Mehitabel (Nelson) Temple and a brother of the wife of John Fenton. He was appointed a councillor of the province of New Hampshire April 4, 1761, and was commissioned lieutenant-governor June 15, 1761. It is probable he did not assume any duties under the last appointment.

60. Theodore Atkinson, born 1736, son of Theodore Atkinson (No. 58); married Frances Deering, who married second Gov. John Wentworth. He was secretary of the province. He died Oct. 28, 1769. Two towns in this State, Francestown and Deering, were gallantly named in her honor.

61. Meshech Weare, born June 16, 1713, son of Nathaniel and Mary (Wait) Weare. He was a member of the provincial assembly twenty years and three years the Speaker of the House. From 1747 to 1776 he was a Justice of the Superior Court of the province and subsequently Chief Justice of the State. He was a colonel of a regiment of the province. He was a delegate in the five provincial congresses and eight and one-half years president of the council and chairman of the committee of safety. He was the first governor under the permanent constitution. He died Jan. 14, 1786. He sold his right to Abel Webster, 1764.

62. Joseph Smith was a prominent citizen of Newmarket, a colonel in the militia, and a representative many years to the assembly of the province. He sold his right to Abel Webster, 1763.

63. David Nevins, settled in Plymouth. He was added to the original list by vote of the proprietors. See family register.

V. TOWN BOUNDARIES.

AFTER all the towns in this vicinity had been surveyed and granted, and soon after the settlement of Plymouth, a new survey of the boundaries of the townships was ordered and consummated. The amended bounds were established in 1767 by Robert Fletcher of Dunstable, a noted surveyor of his time. It was the province of Fletcher's survey to review the existing bounds and to sever tracts from townships that contained an area in excess of the quantity stated in the charter. In this revision of town lines there was severed from the towns in this vicinity one oblong tract fourteen miles in length and one mile and forty rods in width, containing nine thousand and six hundred acres. It extended from near the north line of Rumney to the extension of the south line of Cardigan. It was bounded on the east by Campton and Plymouth and on the west by Rumney, Cockermouth, and Cardigan. At this time Cardigan included Orange and a considerable part of Alexandria.

This tract was thus restored to the king's domain, and like other public land, was subject to grant by the governor. When land was at his disposal and his personal friends were petitioners, the governor was never idle. The greater part of this land was soon granted. The northern part was granted, March 8, 1773, to Col. Samuel Holland, surveyor-general, formerly a major in the French War and subsequently a Tory. From the north end of the reservation Holland's grant extended south four miles and one hundred rods. It was one mile and forty rods in width and contained three thousand one hundred and five acres. Loon Pond, estimated at one hundred and forty acres, was in

nearly the centre of the grant, and the southern extremity was about one mile south of Baker's River. Next south was the grant of three thousand acres to Col. John Fenton, which is dated Feb. 19, 1773. It extended south from Holland's grant four miles and sixty rods to the north line of Cardigan extended. It was bounded on the west by Cockermouth, and for several years it was wholly within the town of Plymouth.

The remainder, or southern part of the Fletcher reservation, extending, same width, from the southern extremity of Fenton's grant to the south line of Cardigan extended, containing about three thousand acres, remained ungranted land and became a part of Cardigan and later of Alexandria.

The Fletcher survey did not cover the northern boundary of Plymouth, but the amended location of the northeast corner of Cockermouth was a thorn in the flesh of the proprietors. It was apparent to all concerned that an equitable and final adjustment of the line between Campton and Plymouth was a serious problem which must be solved. The end was delayed, but the trouble finally came with force and certainty.

The proprietors, at a meeting assembled at the meeting-house July 20, 1772, voted to apply for a new charter and "Chose Samuel Livermore, Esq and Capt. David Hobart a committee to wait on his Excellency the Governor in order to procure a new charter of the township of Plymouth"

The committee preferred a petition alleging that

the northeast corner of Cockermouth was never determined by any authoritative survey except what was done by Robert Fletcher, Esq. . . . by which survey the said town ship of Plymouth was found to contain more land than had before been supposed . . . that some of the lots improved and settled do not fall within the quantity of 17000 acres although they are literally within the bounds of their charter. The Pet^{rns} therefore pray your Excellency and honors consideration on the premises and that a new survey may be made of said town of Plymouth to begin at Pemigewasset river opposite the northwest corner of New Holderness and run from thence on a straight line to a hemlock tree newmarked by said Robert Fletcher Esq nineteen miles on a certain

course from Connecticut river and from thence south thirty degrees west five miles and a half to the north east corner of Cardigan, and from thence south thirty seven degrees west six miles to the south east corner of Cardigan, thence turning easterly and running on the same point that the southerly sideline of Cardigan runs to the line commonly called the patent line, thence by said patent line to Pemigewasset river, thence by said river to the bounds first mentioned.

The petition was dismissed, but it is an expression of the attitude of the proprietors of Plymouth at this time. It is an interesting document and is found in Town Papers, Vol. XIII, p. 223.

The patent line named in the petition was the boundary line of the Masonian Proprietors, being the northern line of Alexandria and New Chester, as those towns were constituted at that time. The part of New Chester adjacent to the patent line is now Bridgewater, and to Alexandria has been added the eastern part of Cardigan, and from that town Danbury has been severed.

By the terms of the charter of Plymouth the southern extremity of the grant terminated in a point on the patent line. The point or extremity of the township, in terms of the present time, was very near the northern point of Danbury.

By the terms of the petition for a new charter, the oblong tract reserved by the Fletcher survey, except the northern part of Colonel Holland's grant, is included. In this petition for a new charter Col. John Fenton joins with the proprietors and alleges that his grant of three thousand acres lies within the proposed bounds. In 1767 the proprietors of Plymouth sued the proprietors of Cockermouth for trespass on the common land. The contention in this direction was practically ended by the Fletcher survey, which set apart a tract of land between the two towns over a mile in width. If this arrangement of the lines guaranteed peace on the western border of Plymouth, it threw down the gauntlet of war on the north. The Fletcher survey removed the northeast corner of Cockermouth to the south, and the proprietors of Campton claimed that a change in the location of the corner of Cockermouth in like manner changed the line between Camp-

ton and Plymouth. With an equal opportunity many towns would have maintained a stubborn contention. The proprietors of Plymouth and Campton wisely discussed the situation in a friendly manner. Moses Little, a leader in Campton, owned many acres and had many friends in Plymouth, and there were many in both towns whose friendship was never weakened by contention.

Equal uncertainty and confusion concerning the boundaries and the lands owned by the proprietors existed in other towns. The condition was intolerable. Finally, by concerted action, in 1779 committees were chosen by the proprietors of many of the towns in Grafton County to meet in a convention for a general discussion of the situation, and for the discovery of some measures of relief. The towns embraced in the call for a convention were Plymouth, Campton, Rumney, Cockermouth, Thornton, Warren, Wentworth, Dorchester, Benton, Ellsworth, Lyme, Orford, Piermont, and Haverhill. The delegates representing the proprietors of Plymouth were Samuel Livermore, Samuel Emerson, and Moses Dow. The convention of delegates assembled at the house of Col. David Webster in Plymouth, Wednesday, Sept. 15, 1779. In the convention were several residents of Rockingham County, who were proprietors of one or more of the towns embraced in the call. In a discussion of measures to harmonize and adjust the conflicting interests, the convention, in different towns, was in session twenty days. Samuel Livermore was paid for attending five days, Moses Dow for eight days, and Samuel Emerson, who was clerk of the convention, for twenty days.

At a final session, held Dec. 2, 1779, at Rumney, the delegates of seven towns agreed to submit the entire controversy to Ebenezer Thompson of Durham, Joseph Badger of Gilmanton, Ebenezer Smith of Meredith, Levi Dearborn of North Hampton, and John Smith of Newmarket. It was further agreed that the committee of the seven towns entering into the compact should petition the legislature for an act confirming the decision of the referees. The seven towns joining in this proceeding were

Plymouth, Campton, Rumney, Warren, Wentworth, Piermont, and Orford.

An act providing that the decision of the referees should be "binding and conclusive in law upon all persons and parties whatsoever" was passed Oct. 27, 1780. In January following, the proprietors of Plymouth chose Abel Webster and Josiah Brown "to wait on the Court's committee in settling the bounds of the town." By the terms of the compact the expense of the referees was to be paid by the seven towns. The proprietors of Plymouth had no money in the treasury, but they were still rich in lands. They ordered a sale of land, and a vendue was held at the house of Adam Brown. Three lots, of one hundred acres each, were sold to Joseph Kimball for one hundred and seventy-nine silver dollars. The referees were paid £35 12s. 1d., or very nearly \$118. Abel Webster was paid £1 17s. 6d. for five days and Josiah Brown fifteen shillings for three days, in attendance upon the referees.

The referees, or legislative committee, surveyed the seven townships which agreed to abide by their decision, established the bounds, and made a final report Sept. 4, 1784. The bounds of Plymouth, as determined by the referees, follow:—

Beginning at a pine tree on the western bank of the Pemigewasset river opposite Holderness corner where the line of Campton crosses the river; thence on Campton line south eighty six degrees west about five miles to a hemlock tree the north east corner of Cockermouth; thence south thirty degrees west five miles one half mile and forty rods to a beech tree; thence south thirty seven degrees west five miles and two hundred and eighty five rods to a beech tree on Grafton line; thence south sixty five degrees east two hundred and sixty rods to a beech tree standing on the Curve line [patent line]; thence following the curve line about twelve miles and a half mile to a white oak tree standing on the bank of Pemigewasset river; thence by said river to the bounds began at.

The west line adjoining Cockermouth and Cardigan was almost exactly the line described in the petition for a new charter in 1772. In the location of the north line Plymouth was aggrieved

and Campton was largely benefited. The finding of the referees was final in law, but it opened the door to new contention and several petitions for review.

First, the proprietors of Cockermouth had refused to sign the agreement to refer the location of all the boundaries to the referees, and as soon as the award was made they chose a committee consisting of Richard Cutts Shannon, Samuel Hobart, Edmund Shattuck, Noah Worcester, and John Hale to petition the legislature for a review. Plymouth at the same time chose Samuel Livermore and Samuel Emerson "to make a defense against a petition laid before said court by the proprietors of Cockermouth." A day for the hearing was several times announced and as many times postponed. In the meantime Samuel Livermore, Samuel Emerson, and Jacob Merrill on the part of Plymouth, and Richard Cutts Shannon and Edmund Shattuck on the part of Cockermouth, executed an agreement by which the issue was amicably settled. It was agreed by both parties that the line established by the referees should forever remain the line between the towns. The proprietors of Plymouth quitclaimed to the proprietors of Cockermouth all the land west of the line which had been formerly claimed by them, while on the other hand the proprietors of Cockermouth agreed to withdraw all suits and petitions and pay the costs, and also quitclaimed to Plymouth all lands east of the new town line, except the lots already appropriated by proprietors of Cockermouth between the glebe lot and the southeast corner of Cockermouth.

In 1763, as stated in a former chapter, the proprietors established the northern line of their township to their unqualified satisfaction. The survey was made by Joseph Blanchard, and the line was subsequently known as Blanchard's line. It extended from the northeast corner of the town in a direct course to a point, very nearly, in the line of Rumney where the railroad enters that town. The line between Campton and Plymouth at the present time is the same, except that for other reasons a corner of Campton adjacent to Loon Pond was annexed to Plymouth

in 1793. The land adjacent to the Blanchard line was divided into lots and distributed among the proprietors in the first division. Here were fertile farms and here were the homes of some of the most prominent citizens of the town.

The line between Campton and Plymouth established by the legislative committee, as shown on the map, began at the northeast corner of Plymouth and extended westerly in a direct course to the northeast corner of Cockermouth, which is the southeast corner of Rumney. In other words, the line established by the committee, compared with the Blanchard line, severed from Plymouth a tract containing 1688 acres. It was bounded on the west by Rumney, on the north and south by the two locations of the town line. By this proceeding the owners of farms and land in this severed tract were not disturbed in their possessions. To the town it was a serious loss both in population and in taxable estates. To the proprietors it was simply a pecuniary loss. They became accountable to the proprietors of Campton for the original value of the land before improvements were made. Evidently there was an understanding that this severed tract would be restored by law to Plymouth whenever the proprietors of Plymouth satisfied the reasonable demands of the proprietors of Campton. The early proceedings of the negotiation are unknown, but the final agreement is a matter of record. The proprietors of Campton in December, 1791, chose Col. Moses Little, Moses Baker, Esq., and John Southmaid a committee with full powers to represent their interests, and in April following the proprietors of Plymouth selected Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Lieut. Elisha Bean, and Samuel Marsh with full powers to consummate a settlement. Articles of agreement were executed May 9, 1792.

By the conditions of the agreement the proprietors of Campton surrendered all claims to 1688 acres between the committee and Blanchard lines, except sixty-four acres which was common land, and on their part the proprietors of Plymouth deeded to the proprietors of Campton one tract, containing 2400 acres, lying east of the Crawford Farm and north of Newfound Lake, twenty

fifty-acre lots in the first range south of Newfound Lake and adjacent to the east line of Cardigan, as that town was then constituted; the west half of the two-hundred-acre lot No. 6, south of Newfound Lake; two fifty-acre lots, Nos. 4 and 5 in the second range, south of Newfound Lake, the last named lots containing 1100 acres, or 3564 acres in all.

The act of the legislature declaring the Blanchard line to be the north line of Plymouth and annexing to this town all the area between the committee line and Blanchard line was approved June 21, 1793. In this act there was also a clause uniting to Plymouth two other tracts of land, owned by Nathaniel Peabody and described as the Everett Farm and the Withe Lot. The history of the lots of land added to Plymouth is discovered in the registry of deeds. Capt. Edward Everett of Rumney sold one hundred and fifty acres with buildings to Nathaniel Peabody and Samuel Atkinson. On account of the uncertainty of the town lines this farm was described as in Rumney or in Campton or in both towns. Atkinson sold his interest to Peabody. In the meantime Peabody purchased a lot, containing fifty acres, of Luke Withee of Derryfield. These are the two tracts annexed to Plymouth in 1793. Peabody sold both tracts to James Harriman, and Harriman sold to Daniel Little, and in 1796 Little sold the whole to Stephen Wells of Plymouth.

In marked contrast with the prevailing literal construction of law our fathers sometimes construed the statutes from the standard of their desires. When the committee or referees declared in 1784 that a line from the northeast corner of Plymouth to the northeast corner of Cockermouth was the boundary between Campton and Plymouth, those who lived on the tract severed from Plymouth gave a liberal construction to the legal effect of the decision and regarded the boundary established by the committee like the student's view of the equator as an imaginary line. They refused to be joined to Campton and continued to pay taxes, to vote, and to hold office in Plymouth.

It has been represented in another connection that nearly or quite

all the earlier settlements were made in the northern and eastern parts of the town and near Baker's and Pemigewasset rivers. With the exception of the sale of a very few lots, the southern part of original Plymouth, now in Hebron, was common land, owned in one tract by the proprietors. This part of the town was not surveyed and divided into lots until 1788.

In 1791 a few families were living in this part of the town. Dr. Abijah Wright, who was also a farmer, was living about one mile north of Newfound Lake. Uriah Pike removed to this section in 1790, and the other names appended to the petition for incorporation were mainly new arrivals. In their mention of a settlement of a minister they must refer to the ministry of Rev. Samuel Perley, then of Cockermouth. When the subject was first suggested the town of Plymouth made no objection and appointed a committee to join with the petitioners concerning the establishment of a dividing line. Their petition to the General Court follows:—

The Petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth that by a late establishment of the Boundaries of the Town of Plymouth (of which we are Inhabitants) our Connection with said Town of Plymouth is rendered exceedingly difficult as the road at present is new & in a great Measure unoccupied & the Length of way from the principal part of us nearly Six miles to the now Centre of said Plymouth, & further, that the greater part of us have been at a great expence in Settling a Gospel minister & Supporting the Gospel among ourselves without any assistance of the Town of Plymouth aforesaid & having previously obtained approbation of the Inhabitants of said Plymouth by a unanimous Vote herewith inclos'd & preferrd to Your honours, Signifying that our desires may be fully gratify'd.— Wherefore we pray that Such a part of said Plymouth as is expressd by meets & Bounds (in said Vote herewith preferr'd by the Bearer William Cummings) may be set off & incorporated into a Township by the name of Weston & that we the Inhabitants of the same may be invested with Town Privileges in Such way as Your Honours in Wisdom may Judge fit.

And We your Honour's Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.—

Plymouth Dec. 7, 1791

Eben Kendall	John W Kendall	Evan Bartlett
Josiah Hobart	Jacob Lovejoy	Benjamin Hazelton
Uriah Pike	Jacob Perkins	Jonathan Morss
Simeon Lovejoy	James Colburn	David Cheney
Ebenezer Kendall Ju.	Samuel Hazaltun	Jarahmeel Bowers
	Wm Cummings Junr	Jonathan Bartlett

The boundary line between Plymouth and the new town of Hebron is described as follows:—

Beginning at a hemlock tree on the line between Plymouth and Bridgewater one mile and one hundred and thirty seven rods easterly from Newfound lake; thence north seventeen degrees west two miles and two hundred and twenty six rods to the south west corner of Benjamin Taylor's lot; thence north forty five degrees west forty eight rods to the south east corner of lot No. three in the second range; thence north sixty degrees west between lots Nos. three and four in the first and second ranges, north of Newfound lake, and so on in the same course to Cockermouth.

These courses are shown by a dotted line on the proprietors' map. The name of Hebron was substituted for Weston, and the town, including also a part of Cockermouth, was incorporated June 15, 1792.

In the division of a town the title of the original proprietors was not changed. At the time Hebron was incorporated the proprietors of Plymouth owned several lots in the new town which had been surveyed, but which had not been sold or divided among the propriety. Nearly all of this land was conveyed, as formerly stated, to the proprietors of Campton.

As early as 1795 the common land was nearly consumed and an early dissolution of the propriety was foreshadowed. The business of the later meetings was limited to a brief contention with the proprietors of Cardigan, and to a final adjustment of a few outstanding accounts.

For many years the proprietors, or at least some of them, claimed that Col. David Hobart had received more than an average value of

land in the first division in 1763. Finally, Colonel Hobart deeded to the proprietors all the land he received in the second division in 1788, being lots six and seven in the broken range, situated in the west part of the town. This land was sold to Enoch George and Ezekiel Gile for one hundred and six dollars. The deed is dated May 7, 1806. The proceeds were applied to the payment of debts.

A committee consisting of Lieut. Jonathan Robbins and Reuben Hobart, chosen for that purpose, reported in 1809 that one lot of two acres and twenty rods on Hebron River, worth thirty dollars, and the part of great lot No. 3 south of the pond, which was not in Cardigan, estimated at fifty cents per acre, were "all the common land they can find which they view to be worth anything." The small lot on Hebron River was sold to Lieutenant Robbins, and part of lot No. 3 and one hundred acres on the mountain in Hebron were conveyed to Asa Hobart and Elizabeth Hobart, widow of Reuben Hobart, in compensation for their expense in a dispute with the proprietors of Cardigan. This conveyance is dated March 15, 1814, and the same day the propriety was dissolved. For the purpose of distributing among themselves or of selling the common land, the association of proprietors was continued fifty-one years. From time to time grantees sold their right in the township and were succeeded in the propriety by the purchaser, but the membership of the association was sixty at all times. From the beginning to the end the organization was able and honorable. It cannot be denied that in laying out house lots our worthies trespassed grievously on the borders of Campton, Cockermouth, and Cardigan, but when reminded of the fact they calmly and fairly met the accusation and made ample reparation. And when Cockermouth and Cardigan appropriated land in their domain they defended with vigor and settled every dispute with liberality.

From the beginning Abel Webster was the clerk of the proprietors until 1781, when he resigned. Samuel Emerson was his successor and was continued in office until the organization was

dissolved. In this narrative of the grant and of the proceedings of the proprietors a particular mention of the Governor's Farm has been reserved for a separate paragraph.

In nearly all of the townships granted by Gov. Benning Wentworth there was a reservation of five hundred acres for himself. These reservations, generally located in a corner of the township and often adjacent to a river, were called Governor's Farms, and while he lived his title to these lands was not questioned. Governor Wentworth died Oct. 14, 1770, about three years after he was succeeded in office by his nephew John Wentworth. He had no children, and in his will he conveyed his entire estate to his second wife, Martha Hilton. This disposition of his wealth was a surprise and a disappointment to the Wentworth family. Immediately Gov. John Wentworth declared the title to all the reservations or Governor's Farms to be void. In this proceeding he was sustained by all the council except Peter Livius. By this proceeding the farms were restored to the king's domain and subject to grant by Gov. John Wentworth. In the meantime, through a failure to fulfil the conditions, the charter of several towns in Grafton County had been forfeited, and in a renewal of their charters there was no provision for a Governor's Farm.

In Plymouth Gov. Benning Wentworth, with good judgment, located his farm in the northeast corner of the township. The farm in Campton was located in the southwest corner adjoining Rumney and Plymouth. The history of the two farms is involved. Having been wrested from the estate of Gov. Benning Wentworth, both farms were speedily granted. Isaac Rindge, surveyor-general of the province, appointed Jotham Cummings a deputy surveyor. Mr. Cummings surveyed both farms and returned the minutes and plans to Portsmouth in the spring of 1771. Mr. Rindge reported the surveys to the governor July 8, 1771, and three days later the governor granted both farms to John Atkinson of Newbury, Mass., who sold both grants to Moses Little, then of Newburyport, Mass., and subsequently of Campton. According to the dates of the record, Mr. Atkinson sold the land to Mr. Little

five days before the grant by the governor. In the progress of events the proprietors of Plymouth laid out lots that extended into both farms, and when reminded of the fact by Mr. Little, the proprietors admitted it and expressed a willingness to make reparation. On this account the proprietors of Plymouth conveyed to Colonel Little four fifty-acre lots, being Nos. 6, 11, 18, and 19 in the third range south of Newfound Lake.

The Governor's Farm in Haverhill was granted to John Parker of Portsmouth, the farm in Orford to William Simpson, the farm in Rumney to Elias Warner, the farm in Lebanon to William Parker, and the farm in Piermont to Thomas Martyn.

VI. THE TOWN.

THE charter of Plymouth was a grant of land to the proprietors and a grant of town privileges to those who became inhabitants. As stated in another chapter, the proprietors built the first roads, settled a minister, and were active in forwarding the settlement. As soon as the number of inhabitants were sufficient a town was organized and the proprietors surrendered the control of public affairs. The town was organized and the first town meeting was held at the house of Stephen Webster July 17, 1766. At this meeting the following town officers were chosen, but no other business was transacted.

Moderator — Stephen Webster.

Town Clerk — Stephen Webster.

Selectmen — Stephen Webster, Lieut. Winthrop Wells, John Willoughby.

Constable — David Webster.

Surveyors of Highways — Ebenezer Hartshorn, Capt. Ephraim Wesson.

Fence Viewers — Gershom Hobart, Zachariah Parker.

Deer Reeves — Jotham Cummings, Silas Brown.

Tythingmen — Capt. David Hobart, James Hobart.

Hog Reeves — Abner Keyes, Stephen Webster Jun.

Sealer of Weights and Measures — Gershom Hobart.

Auditors — Ebenezer Hartshorn, Abel Webster.

The second meeting soon followed and was held at the house of James Hobart Oct. 16, 1766. Capt. David Hobart was chosen moderator, and the town voted "To raise two pounds and ten shillings in money for the towns use for the present year."

At this meeting the town agreed to assume the contract made by the proprietors for the support of Rev. Nathan Ward.

The proceedings of other meetings will be found in lists of town officers and in chapters relating to roads, schools, the Revolution, and ecclesiastical affairs.

From 1766 until the Revolution the settlement was happy and prosperous. It was a season of growth and development. The productive meadows on the Pemigewasset and Baker's rivers were under cultivation and yielded bountiful harvests. The clearings on the hillsides were annually enlarged, new houses and barns were erected, and in many instances the acres under tillage or grazing extended to the boundaries of the homestead. The products of fruitful farms supplied the substantial wants of the home and there was an annual surplus of beef, pork, peas, and oats for sale or exchange for other needed commodities.

A church was established and maintained, schools were supported, and the young settlement was beginning to assume the dignity and enjoy the conveniences of a town.

During the French and Indian War, and at the beginning of the administration of Gov. John Wentworth, there were nine regiments of militia in the province. In the organization then existing only a few towns north of the latitude of Charlestown and Concord were included in any regiment. In the meantime new towns were assuming proportions of importance, and the new governor was an enthusiast in military affairs. During his administration of eight years he added six regiments. The governor at his pleasure appointed and commissioned the officers and named the towns which should constitute a regiment. The record of appointments was held as the private property of the executive and has never been accessible to the public. The only sources of information are the commissions which have been preserved and incidental mention in contemporaneous records.

The six new regiments were numbered ten to fifteen inclusive. The tenth regiment, organized in July, 1771, comprised the towns of Gilmanton, Barnstead, New Durham, Middleton, Wakefield, Wolfeborough, Tuftonborough, Moultonborough, Tamworth, Sandwich, Meredith, Sanbornton, and the partially organized parish

now Alton. Joseph Badger of Gilmanton was commissioned colonel.

To complete the organization of Grafton County Governor Wentworth established two additional regiments, extending the militia system over the most populous sections of the county. These were called the eleventh and twelfth regiments. The eleventh included Plymouth, Holderness, Campton, Thornton, Rumney, Cockermouth, Alexandria, and New Chester. The field officers were John Fenton, colonel, David Hobart, lieutenant-colonel, and Jonathan M. Sewall, major, all of Plymouth.

The towns near Connecticut River constituted the twelfth regiment, with John Hurd of Haverhill, colonel, Asa Porter of Haverhill, lieutenant-colonel, and William Simpson of Orford, major. In January, 1774, the thirteenth regiment, including Hanover, Lebanon, and other towns in Grafton County, with Plainfield and Cornish in Cheshire County, was organized. It is probable that some of the towns in this regiment originally had been included in the twelfth regiment, and during the Revolution the twelfth was enlarged at the expense of the thirteenth. The field officers were Samuel Gilbert of Lyme, colonel, Jonathan Chase of Cornish, lieutenant-colonel, Elisha Payne and Ralph Wheelock, majors. The fourteenth regiment, made up of parts of existing regiments, was organized in January, 1774. Reuben Kidder of New Ipswich was the colonel, and his regiment included twelve towns in Cheshire and Hillsborough counties. The fifteenth regiment, the last of Governor Wentworth's military creations, was organized in January, 1774. The field officers were Andrew McMillan of Concord, colonel, Thomas Stickney of Concord, lieutenant-colonel, and Benjamin Thompson of Concord, major.

In his love of military affairs, in extending the system, and in perfecting an organization of the regiments, Governor Wentworth unconsciously was training the hardy yeomen for effective service in the Revolution. The organized militia of the province became the disciplined army of the State. In a subsequent chapter it

will appear that these regiments were accepted as a basis of organization for the Revolution.

Early in the year 1773 the several towns in the province of New Hampshire made a return to the assembly of the number of polls and the value of ratable estates, from which in the month of May a table was prepared by the assembly as a basis for the proportionment of the public taxes. The apportionment of Plymouth expressed in a decimal notation was 4.35 upon each 1000, which was the exact proportion of this town in 1891. The State and town had grown with equal pace. The returns from Grafton County in 1773 are presented as an interesting exhibit of the comparative growth of the several towns.

	POLLS.	RATABLE ESTATES.		POLLS.	RATABLE ESTATES.
		£			£
Haverhill	76	100	Canaan	19	20
Plymouth	67	90	Cockermouth	20	17
Lebanon	70	85	Lisbon	10	10
Hanover	77	76	Lancaster	12	12
Lyme	61	64	Northumberland	12	12
Orford	46	48	Thornton	18	15
Rumney	36	37	Alexandria	11	9
Piermont	30	28	New Chester	30	30
Bath	27	27	Lyman	6	6

In the autumn of 1773, in response to a requisition of Governor Wentworth, the selectmen of the several towns of the province returned a classified census of the population of the province. A summary of the population of the towns of Grafton County is as follows:—

Haverhill	387	Dorchester	121
Plymouth	345	Cockermouth	107
Hanover	342	Stewartstown	88
Lebanon	295	Thornton	74
Lyme	241	Canaan	62

Orford	228	Ellsworth	50
Rumney	192	Northumberland	46
New Chester	179	Wentworth	42
Bath	150	Lancaster	37
Holderness	147	Apthorp	14
Campton	139		

The classified return of Plymouth was made by Benjamin Goold, John Willoughby, and Samuel Dearborn, the selectmen for the year, from which it appears that the three hundred and forty-five persons living in Plymouth in the autumn of 1773 were divided as follows:—

Unmarried men 16 to 60 years of age	29
Married men 16 to 60	57
Married women	57
Boys under 16	90
Females unmarried	107
Widows	2
Slaves	3
Men over 60—no return	
Total	<hr/> 345

After the lapse of one hundred and thirty years it is impossible to present the names of every one of the three hundred and forty-five persons living in Plymouth in the autumn of 1773. The attempt however is an interesting investigation, and it tests the accuracy of the family registers contained in Volume II.

The following tables furnish the names of the twenty-nine unmarried men from sixteen to sixty years of age, and also the names of the fifty-seven married men from sixteen to sixty years of age. And as “unto the bow the cord is” it will not be doubted that the fifty-seven married women were the wives of the fifty-seven married men whose names are given in the table. That is easy. In the column for men above sixty years of age there is no return from Plymouth. Gershom Fletcher was over seventy years of age in 1773, and he was at the time a substantial citizen of the town. The omission was either an oversight or an error in the copy. Benjamin Dearborn was sixty in August of that

year, and it is reasonable to assume that he was counted as one of the married men from sixteen to sixty.

The two widows who were not neglected by the selectmen in an enumeration of the population were Bridget Snow, who came to Plymouth in widows' weeds, and Miriam Snow, widow of Henry Snow who died in Plymouth. The three slaves were Cisco and Dinah, servants of Col. David Webster, and probably one servant of John Porter, Esq.

The number and names of the children of several of the enumerated families are not known, and in a few instances never will be ascertained. A record was not made, and knowledge has faded from the traditions of men. In addition to these there were several unmarried females living with their married sisters and other relatives whose names in every instance cannot be ascertained. For such reasons the number of boys under sixteen and the number of females unmarried of all ages will not be complete.

	MARRIED MEN 16 TO 60.	BOYS UNDER 16.	GIRLS.
1	James Barnes	1	1
2	Elisha Bean	2	3
3	Ebenezer Blodgett	0	0
4	James Blodgett	2	5
5	Solomon Blood	1	1
6	Dr. John Brown	2	5
7	John Brown Jr.	0	0
8	Lieut. Josiah Brown	1	2
9	Silas Brown		
10	Capt. Jotham Cummings	3	1
11	Benjamin Dearborn	0	1
12	Samuel Dearborn	2	1
13	Samuel Emerson	4	1
14	Edward Evans		
15	Benjamin Goold	1	1
16	William Greenough	0	0
17	Ebenezer Hartshorn		
18	James Harvell		
19	Gershom Hobart	4	3

	MARRIED MEN 16 TO 60.	Boys UNDER 16.	GIRLS.
20	Capt. James Hobart	1	1
21	Peter Hobart	1	0
22	Col. David Hobart	0	1
23	George Hull	3	1
24	Ephraim Keyes	2	3
25	Jonas Keyes	3	2
26	Phineas Lovejoy	1	1
27	Thomas Lucas		
28	Samuel Marsh	0	1
29	Onesipherous Marsh	0	1
30	Jacob Merrill	4	5
31	David Nevins	1	2
32	William Nevins	0	1
33	Zachariah Parker	0	0
34	Amos Phillips	4	1
35	Benjamin Phillips	1	0
36	Noah Phillips	1	0
37	Nahum Powers	1	1
38	Zebediah Richardson	2	1
39	James Ryan	1	
40	William Simpson		
41	Peter Stearns	1	2
42	Edward Taylor	1	1
43	John Webber	2	0
44	Rev. Nathan Ward	5	3
45	Jonas Ward	3	4
46	Abel Webster	3	4
47	David Webster	4	0
48	Stephen Webster	0	1
49	Stephen Webster Jr.	2	5
50	Benjamin Wells	0	2
51	Winthrop Wells	1	3
52	Joseph Wheeler		
53	Solomon Wheeler		
54	Timothy Wheeler	0	0
55	Dr. Abijah Wright	0	0
56	John Willoughby	4	4
57	Dea. Francis Worcester	3	1

UNMARRIED MEN 16 TO 60 YEARS OF AGE.

Edward Arms	Ephraim Keyes
Jeremiah Blodgett	Ezekiel Keyes
Ebenezer Blodgett	Jacob Marsh
James Blodgett	Thomas McClure
Joseph Brown	John Nevins
John Calef	George Patterson
Benjamin Dearborn	Benjamin Snow
Michael Dearborn	Enoch Ward
Peter Dearborn	Abraham Ward
Dr. Peter Emerson	Abel Webster
Noah Hobart	Amos Webster
Joseph Hull	Daniel Clough Webster
Nathaniel Hull	Nathaniel Webster
Samuel Hull	Paul Wells
Ebenezer Keyes	Daniel Wheeler

VII. JOHN FENTON.

COLONEL JOHN FENTON in his opinions and conduct in the early stages of the Revolution is a character for delineation in the history of New Hampshire. As a county official, as a colonel of the eleventh regiment, as a temporary resident, and as the only representative from this town to the assembly of the province, he was a prominent actor in the prelude to the history of Plymouth in the Revolution. He served several campaigns in the French and Indian War from 1756 to 1761, and was commissioned a captain in the Queen's Royal Irish Regiment Feb. 13, 1762. Having served with his regiment about one year, he was retired from active service on reduced pay and resided several years in Boston and Charlestown, Mass. He was taxed in Charlestown in 1771, 1772, and 1773. He was also taxed in 1774, but the tax was abated. In the meantime he filled several temporary appointments under the government and transacted considerable business under powers of attorney from his former comrades in war. The selectmen of Boston in those days were accustomed to invite several gentlemen of distinction from Boston and vicinity to attend them in the annual visitation of the schools. Fenton was honored with an invitation and attended the selectmen in a visitation July 7, 1773.

Previous to the Revolution the King of England owned the unappropriated lands in the American colonies, and in his name and with his consent the governors made grants of townships or defined areas to individuals. Under the authority of a royal proclamation announced in 1763 the governors were authorized to make grants of land to officers and men retired from active

service. In 1764 John Fenton applied to Gov. Benning Wentworth for a tract of land to which, under the terms of the proclamation, he was entitled. For reasons unexplained the grant was not made for several years, but was made by Gov. John Wentworth in 1772, and is the subject of a paragraph in a former chapter. In this grant he is described as a resident of Charlestown, Mass. John Fenton married, 1775, Elizabeth Temple. The intention of marriage is recorded in Boston, Sept. 29, 1755. She was a daughter of Capt. Robert and Mehitabel (Nelson) Temple. Her father was the grandson of Sir Purbeck Temple of Stanton Bury, England, and her brother John became the eighth baronet and lived in England. Before he came to New Hampshire Fenton bought and sold several tracts of land in Charlestown, and subsequently he still owned a cultivated farm on which the battle of Bunker Hill was fought.

In the organization of Grafton County Gov. John Wentworth expressed his friendship and esteem for John Fenton by appointing him Judge of Probate and Clerk of the Courts. At the same time the governor commissioned him a colonel of the eleventh regiment. Succeeding these substantial preferments Fenton came to Plymouth and remained a considerable part of the time during two years. He bought several rights in the propriety and purchased an extensive farm.

The farm was well stocked and well cultivated, and the farming implements were more numerous and expensive than those owned by the other farmers of the town. While under the general supervision of William Simpson, who removed from Orford to Plymouth when appointed sheriff of the county, the land was cultivated on shares by William Tarlton and Amos Thompson. During the two years in which Fenton maintained a nominal residence in this town he divided his time between Plymouth and Portsmouth. In the discharge of official duties, and while building a dwelling-house in this town, he frequently journeyed from Portsmouth to Plymouth, but evidently he preferred the sea breezes, the society and the luxury of a wealthy

town to the pure air, the sweet fields, and the homely fare of the settlement. He was taxed upon his land, but he never paid a poll or a personal tax in Plymouth.

In September, 1774, the governor and council assembled at Portsmouth, fearing a hostile demonstration on account of the expected arrival of a cargo of tea consigned to Edward Parry, called upon the justices of the peace of Portsmouth to preserve order in the town. In this proceeding John Fenton is one of the four justices of Portsmouth who responded, and during the same month, as clerk of the court of Grafton County, he prepared a list and included himself among the justices of Grafton County, but the list was made and dated at Portsmouth.

In January, 1774, the voters of Plymouth petitioned the governor for permission to send a representative to the assembly, and a few months later they preferred a second petition to the same end. Of the later John Fenton was the first signer, and both petitions were signed by a large proportion of the voters of the town.

Ostensibly in answer to these petitions, and probably in an advancement of his plans, the governor included the towns of Plymouth, Orford, and Lyme in the writ of election of an assembly to be convened May 4, 1775. These towns had not been previously represented. Fenton lost no time. A meeting of the freeholders of Plymouth was holden Feb. 17, 1775. At this meeting John Fenton was elected a representative from Plymouth. Israel Morey was elected in Orford and Ebenezer Green in Lyme. The proceedings of the town meeting in Plymouth are found in State archives, and also in the New Hampshire Gazette, which in this instance compensates for the loss of the town records.

At a meeting of the Freeholders of the town of Plymouth, in said County, on Fryday, the 17th day of February. 1775:

Voted, Mr. John Willoughby, Moderator.

Voted, That the Honourable John Fenton, Esquire, represent this Town in General Assembly.

Voted, That the following Instructions be given to the Honourable John Fenton, Esquire, as our Representative, and that a copy of the same be forwarded by the Town Clerk to the Printer of the New Hampshire Gazette, to be published.

To the Honourable John Fenton, Esquire, Representative for the Town of Plymouth in the County of Grafton :

Sir: We the Freeholders of the Town of Plymouth, being highly impressed with the most favourable sentiments of you, from the many eminent services conferred on this County, and the town of Plymouth in particular, since your first acquaintance with us, should think it needless, at any other time than this, to give you instructions respecting your conduct as our Representative in General Assembly. But when we reflect on the momentous affairs that are now pending between Great Britain and her Colonies, and the imminent danger that threatens them (for we look upon the interest to be mutual) we trust that you will not construe our instructing you to arise from any distrust or want of confidence, but from anxious wish and hearty desire to see the strictest harmony once more established between our parent state and her Colonies, according to their Charter and other rights, as they have been practised from the first accession of the august House of Hanover, to the time of the Stamp Act. We therefore think it our duty to instruct you as our Representative.

First, That you will do everything in your power to preserve the laws of the land inviolate, and by every legal means prevent a diminution of them in every respect whatever; for should the people either throw them aside, or in any manner disregard them, we apprehend that anarchy and confusion must quickly ensue.

Secondly, We recommend to you in the strongest terms, to discountenance every act of oppression, either as to the persons or properties of individuals, as we look upon such proceedings to be highly prejudicial to the common cause, and directly tending to fill the minds of the people with jealousies and distrusts, the bad effects of which must appear obvious to every man of common understanding.

Thirdly, We desire that you will not on any account give up, or in manner suffer a diminution of the rights and privileges we now enjoy, as we live under good and wholesome laws; and,

Fourthly, That you will do the utmost in your power to keep harmony in the House, that the publick affairs of the Province may be discussed with coolness and impartiality; much depending on such conduct at this

time of our difficulties; also, that you will endeavor to have the House open, that those out of doors may be acquainted with the debates of their Members, the practice of secrecy heretofore used, tending much to the disquiet of numbers of their constituents.

To these instructions, and in acknowledgment of the election, Fenton replied:—

To the Freeholders of the Town of Plymouth.

Gentlemen,

I Return you my hearty Thanks for the Honor you have confer'd on me, by chusing me to represent you in General Assembly: I also accept your Instructions with that pleasure that every Loyal Subject and good Citizen should feel, from such evident Marks of good Sense and Prudence (which I have most thoroughly experienced in your general Conduct from the first Moment I knew you to this present Day) you may therefore rely on my using the most strenuous Endeavours to preserve the due Execution of the Laws, the true Rights and Privileges of the People, and of doing every Thing consistent with the Essence of the Constitution to serve my Country, and this Town in particular.

JOHN FENTON.

The election of new members on the sole authority of the governor and without the consent and concurrent action of the assembly renewed an ancient controversy. The governor maintained that through the prerogatives of his office he alone should order the election of members of the assembly and designate the towns represented. In direct opposition the assembly with equal logic and increasing spirit contended that the crown appointed the governor and the council, but the people through their representatives were the sole guardians of the house or assembly. For other reasons, and with the approval of the sitting members, the governor prorogued the assembly from May 6 until June 12. The assembly having met after the recess promptly and incisively closed the debate by a vote that "the members returned for Plymouth, Orford, and Lyme should not be admitted to a seat in this house."

John Fenton was elected a representative to the assembly by

the voters and freeholders of Plymouth. He was instructed concerning his action in the assembly, and he politely returned thanks to the voters of Plymouth for the election. The statement inaccurately has been made that he was expelled. The fact is he was elected but never admitted to a seat in the house, and thus abruptly ends the history of the representation of Plymouth in the royal assembly. The instructions voted at the town meeting in Plymouth to their representative elect are the expressions and sentiments of a loyalist of 1775. There is no explanation of their adoption by the patriots of Plymouth. That this was not a true expression of the prevailing sentiment of the town is firmly established by the fact that in July of the previous year the town had sent Abel Webster to the first provincial congress at Exeter, and that at about the same time Fenton was elected in another town meeting the patriots of Plymouth had chosen David Webster a delegate to the third provincial congress, which convened at Exeter April 21, 1775. A few days later Abel Webster was sent to the same convention of patriots to supply the place of David Webster, who had returned to Plymouth to assist in the organization of the militia. It is safe to assume that the town meeting at which John Fenton was elected was slimly attended, and that by the few his election was rather an expression of regard than an endorsement of his known sentiments. To many of the voters of Plymouth Fenton was a comparative stranger, but they all knew and trusted Abel and David Webster. Later events afford ample proof that the election of Fenton at the time it was effected was a proceeding of which we find no reasonable explanation. The conjecture of the reader is as good as mine.

By nature an extremist, and in principle a loyalist, Fenton was a conspicuous advocate of the cause of the crown. That by boldness of speech and the repeated declarations of his loyalty to his king he had angered the people of Portsmouth is represented in a letter of Governor Wentworth in December 1774, in which he says, "The populace threaten to abuse Col. Fenton because he has to them declared the folly of their conduct and that he will

do his duty as a justice in executing the laws." In the same letter the governor, from the standpoint of a loyalist, proceeds to compliment his zealous friend. "They will never prevail on him to retract if all the men in the province attack him. If I had two hundred such men the castle and all therein would yet be safe."

During the recess of the assembly to which Fenton had been elected, or more definitely, June 7, 1775, he was appointed commandant at Fort William and Mary at Portsmouth and his pay was increased to £365 per annum. On the 12th of June he came from the fort to the assembly chamber, conscious of the dignity of his new command, and when expelled "he gave vent to his passions and expressed himself very freely as to the measures pursued by the country. This enraged the populace, who collected to assault him, and he fled to the governor's house for protection. They brought a field piece mounted and placed it before the door and threatened to discharge it if he were not delivered up." Fenton was chivalrous, and to shield the governor and his house from harm he delivered himself up. He was sent a prisoner to the committee of safety at Exeter.

After his election and before the assembly convened Colonel Fenton addressed an open letter to the people of Grafton County. The letter was written at Portsmouth. It is worthy of note that in nearly every mention of Colonel Fenton, from his advent in New Hampshire in 1773 to his arrest and imprisonment in June, 1775, he is found in Portsmouth. The letter of Colonel Fenton is preserved in the archives of the State.

PORTSMOUTH April 26, 1775

To the People of the County of Grafton, from a real friend, who sincerely wishes their well-being:

For God's sake pay the closest attention to the sowing and planting your lands, and do as much of it as possible, not only for your own and families' subsistence, but to supply the wants of your fellow-men down country; for you may be assured that every kind of distress, in the provision way, is coming upon them.

Let nothing induce you to quit your farming business; mind no reports; there are enough without you, therefore your diligence in farming will much more serve your country than coming to assist us. Much depends on the Back settlements raising plenty of grain.

I am informed, that if the People of the Back settlements take up arms, a number of Indians & Canadians will fall upon them, but that if they remain quiet they will not. This I inform of from the love I bear you and give it you as a sincere friend should do.

JOHN FENTON.

The object of the letter is not ambiguous. In other times it would be construed as good advice, but in 1775 it was the advice of a Tory. It attracted the attention of the provincial congress, and promptly, May 23, that body sent the following communication to Colonel Fenton:—

Sir

A letter with your signature directed to the People of the County of Grafton has been laid before this Congress, the contents of which they consider as of some importance at this day; more particularly the information you give them that "a number of Indians and Canadians will fall upon them if they should take up arms, but if they remain quiet, they will not."

We are anxious for the security of our Friends in the Frontier settlements, as well as elsewhere, could we rely upon this it would afford us the greatest ease and pleasure. This Congress, therefore, express their desire that you appear as soon as possible and inform them respecting the grounds of the aforementioned intelligence.

To this communication Colonel Fenton made reply:—

PORTSMOUTH 23^d May, 1775

To the Provincial Congress at Exeter.

Gentlemen. I, this moment, received your letter of 23^d instant. I do assure you, Gentlemen, I mentioned the matter respecting the Indians coming down on our Frontiers in my letter to the People of the County of Grafton, as a matter of opinion only, nor have I the least clue or circumstance to guide me in that sentiment but sincere opinion.

I am Gentlemen your most obedient

& very h^{ble} servant

JOHN FENTON

P. S. I wrote that letter to the People of the County of Grafton out of absolute Friendship & Regard to the country.

The provincial congress, having made a dignified inquiry and having received a prompt and courteous reply, did not invite a controversy at that time and in that connection.

The connection of Colonel Fenton with Plymouth and with Grafton County here ends, but his conduct and his attitude on public affairs were not overlooked by the provincial congress. This body proceeded with a system and an apparent deliberation that allowed of no stay of proceedings until the offender was removed from the colony. First the provincial congress voted that "Col. Fenton is not a friend of this country." This was the opening. Then congress slept a night and the following day voted all the files and records of the Court of Common Pleas and the Probate Court of Grafton County be taken from the custody of Colonel Fenton and be delivered to John Hurd for safe-keeping. Abel Webster, the delegate from Plymouth, was one of the committee to execute this vote. Then they voted that Colonel Fenton be confined in the jail at Exeter and there be supported like a gentleman. The provincial congress slept again, and with a new day the congress had new conclusions. The following day, July 1, it was ordered by the congress that Captain Moulton be instructed to take four men and an officer and send Colonel Fenton to the headquarters of the New Hampshire forces. The committee of safety a few weeks later paid Theodore Carlton of Exeter fourteen pounds and six shillings for boarding Colonel Fenton. This probably covers the time from June 13 to July 1, 1775. From the army at Winter Hill Colonel Fenton was sent to Hartford and was there confined when the congress at Philadelphia, in September, 1775, gave him leave to repair on parole to Great Britain or Ireland. At the time of the arrest of Colonel Fenton in June, 1775, his wife, with her children, a son and two daughters, repaired to Boston, and the following year she obtained permission to sail with her children to any port of Great Britain.

Arriving in Dublin, Ireland, Colonel Fenton became known as, and he subscribed himself, Capt. John Fenton. He received

an annual stipend from the public treasury until the Marquis of Buckingham, then governor of Ireland, appointed him in the customs of Dublin, which position he held until his death.

He visited England in 1784 as a claimant for losses sustained in America on account of his loyalty to the crown, and while prosecuting his claim he was "stricken with a palsy." He returned to Dublin and there died in January or February, 1785.

In his schedule of losses he includes thirty and one-fourth acres on Bunker Hill in Charlestown, highly cultivated, with an excellent house, stable, orchard, and garden. He states that he had about thirty-five tons of hay on the ground in large cocks, ready to house on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill, together with a large number of carts, and horses. All were lost. The above place was burned, he says, by General Gage a few days after the battle, when he was a prisoner. Fifty-six acres in Plymouth, very rich intervale, with excellent new house and barn just finished for his residence. On the ground, almost ready for reaping, were eighteen acres of wheat, peas, oats, barley, flax, and hay; also carts, ploughs, oxen, horses, cows, and pigs. Eleven acres in Plymouth, very rich intervale, adjoining the above, under flax, peas, and grass. Eighteen hundred acres, being six rights, but of this five rights, or fifteen hundred acres, had been sold to Samuel Livermore, Esq., of Holderness. He states that all the foregoing parcels were acquired by purchase. Three thousand acres by king's grant, lying in Plymouth and in Cocker-mouth, on which are many houses and farms. The schedule is dated Feb. 19, 1784.

It is true that Colonel Fenton lost his hay at the battle of Bunker Hill. The patriot army had a use for it. It must have provoked a grim smile with funny wrinkles on the visage of the British lion when the government paid for the hay used by Colonel Stark for breastworks. A greater price could have been paid if Colonel Fenton had removed his hay the day before the battle.

His wife, Elizabeth (Temple) Fenton, the mother of his children, died in Ireland soon after her arrival there. He was again

married. Soon after his death his family received from the government on account of his losses in America £1210, and each of his two daughters was granted an annual stipend of £30. His widow Catherine, who was living in Cork, Ireland, 1787, was the recipient of £40 annually. His only son was an officer in the army, and in the words of the finding upon the losses of Colonel Fenton, "the son needed no additional support." In the papers in the case of Colonel Fenton, preserved in the London archives, it is stated that he lived genteelly, and such would be the conclusion from the view we have obtained of the man. There appear in the records many inferences which arise to the dignity of fact that in Massachusetts and in New Hampshire Colonel Fenton left many creditors, and it is pleasing to believe that if his affairs had not been disarranged by the Revolution he would have met every obligation. In New Hampshire he was proscribed by the act of Nov. 19, 1778, but his property in this State was not confiscated. At first his lands and personal property in Plymouth were taken in charge by the committee of safety, and later by the selectmen of the town. It was leased by them on shares for a few years to Gershom Hobart and Peter Stearns for the year 1776, to Gershom for the year 1777, and to Jonathan Robbins until 1781. During these years there appears to have been only one-half a crop, and that went to the lessee as his portion. Horses and oxen were found missing, and one of the good men of the town took a chimney from the dwelling-house without leave. From the nature of the report of the managers of the estate, farming did not pay in those days.

In 1781 the committee of safety of the State intervened and committed the custody of the lands of the Fenton estate in Plymouth to Hon. Charles Johnston and James Woodward of Haverhill. In the meantime the attachments of creditors accumulated and the sheriffs virtually superseded the appointed committee. The authority of the State was again invoked. An act approved Feb. 28, 1783, recited in the preamble that a former act relating to the estates of the absentees prevented the creditors of John

Fenton from recovering their demands, and the act was repealed so far as the estate of Fenton was concerned. It was further enacted that Moses Baker of Campton be appointed an attorney to defend the estate from mercenary plaintiffs and to protect alike the honest creditors and the absent defendant.

VIII. THE REVOLUTION, 1773.

A STATEMENT of the causes of the War of the Revolution and the story of the campaigns, defeats, and triumphs of the patriot army are subjects of State and national history. The patriotic record of the town of Plymouth, the many and grievous sacrifices at home, the valor of the men of Plymouth in war, and the loyal attitude of the town to the county and the State during the Revolution more immediately invite attention in the following chapters.

Plymouth was chartered by a royal governor and in the name and by the grace of George III. For a decade the town was subject to laws and political conditions over which the people had no control and in which they had no voice except obedience and submission. From the beginning the frontiers of America were the universities of freedom. The isolation and the hardship of their daily lives educated the settlers in the wilderness in freedom of thought and independence in action, and when discontent and the spirit of resistance assumed the dignity and stature of war the hardy men of Plymouth came to the front with matured opinions and a determined purpose.

It is a slender thread that connects the civil government of a dependent province with the government of the independent State of New Hampshire. In the assembly of the province convened at Portsmouth it was voted May 28, 1774, "that John Wentworth of Somersworth, the speaker of the assembly, Samuel Cutts of Portsmouth, John Giddings of Exeter, Clement March of Greenland, Josiah Bartlett of Kingston, Henry Prescott of New Castle, and John Pickering of Portsmouth be a committee of this house

to correspond with similar committees appointed by the other colonies." This measure was adopted by a majority of two, and an effort made at the suggestion of the governor to reconsider failed by one vote. The governor was irritated by this independent action, and in the hope that a new election would return members more in accord with his opinions and policy he proceeded to dissolve the assembly, and subsequently ordered the election of a new assembly to be convened at Portsmouth May 4, 1775. In the election which ensued twenty-two of the thirty-four members of the former house were re-elected. The twelve new members included John Langdon of Portsmouth, Otis Baker of Dover, John Hale of Hollis, Isaac Wyman of Keene, Samuel Hunt of Charlestown, and others equally zealous of the rights of the people. In this proceeding the governor weakened rather than strengthened his influence over the assembly.

In the election and brief proceedings of this assembly the town of Plymouth in the election of John Fenton became involved. As represented in a former chapter, Fenton was refused admission to the house, and the town of Plymouth was never represented in the assembly of the province. In the meantime the committee of correspondence, chosen May 28, 1774, became the connecting link between a colonial government under the crown and a state government founded and controlled by the people. This committee called a convention of delegates to be chosen by the people and to assemble at Exeter July 24, 1774. This convention of freemen was the first of five conventions known in the annals of New Hampshire as the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth provincial congresses. The fifth congress resolved itself into a legislature and adopted the temporary constitution which was superseded by the constitution of 1783. The pedigree of the government of New Hampshire is easily traced. The assembly of the province begot a committee of correspondence, the committee begot a provincial congress, and the congress begot a State.

The journals of the first and of the second provincial congresses were not preserved. The town records of Plymouth of

over thirty years are lost. For a century it has been supposed that Plymouth, like many other towns, was not represented in the first congress. While this opinion has prevailed, a small fragment of paper has been embalmed in the bottom of an old trunk in the office of the town clerk and has escaped observation for many years. This paper preserves the written evidence of a special town meeting in Plymouth and the election of Abel Webster to the first congress. On one side of the sheet, about four by five inches in dimension, is plainly written in the handwriting of Abel Webster:—

Having Just Rec'd Advice from the Chareman of a meeting of the members of the Late house of Representatives Desireing This Town to chuse a suteable person to Represent them at a meeting to be held at Exeter 21 Instant, 10 Clock forenoon for the choice of Delicates for the General Congress to be held the first Day of September next at Philadelphia, it is therefore Desired that the Inhabitance of the Town would meet at the meeting [house] in this town at four o'Clock this afternoon for the above purposes.

Plymouth July 19th . }
10 Clock, forenoon, 1774 }

On the reverse side of this interesting paper is a record of the most historic meeting assembled in Plymouth:—

July the 19th 1774.

At a Special Town Meeting held at Plymouth by the freeholders and inhabitance thereof for the Choice of Some person to Represent Said town in a General meeting at Exeter the 21 Day of July Instant.

Voted Thomas Lucas moderator.

Voted to send one person to attend said meeting.

Voted Abel Webster goo to Represent said town in the general meeting at Exeter.

In the margin upon this side of the paper is the record of the money raised by subscription, in the same handwriting, to pay the expenses of the delegate to Exeter expressed in sterling money.



John Fenton Esq	0-6-0	William Simpson Esq	0-6-0
Doctor Right	0-6-0	James Hobart	0-3-0
Col. Hobart	0-6-0	George Hull	0-3-0
Dr Webster	0-6-0	Maj. Webster	0-6-0
John Webber	0-1-2	Thomas Lucas	0-3-5
Thomas Lucas	0-2-5	Doc ^r Emerson	0-1-0
Samuel Emerson	0-6-0	Town Money	0-8-4.

In the estimation of the people of Plymouth this was a patriotic meeting and the beginning of a revolution. In the opinion of those who remained loyal to the crown the proceedings were treason flavored with the essence of rebellion. The date and the proceedings of this meeting are essential in a discovery of the prevailing sentiment of the town at the dawn of the Revolution. It was held seven months previous to the election of John Fenton to the assembly of the province. Meetings of a similar import subsequently were frequent, but the election of John Fenton was not repeated. It was one of the events on the playbill of the Revolution that was not encored. The election of a representative to the assembly at Portsmouth in 1775 was not an expression of loyalty to the crown. All the towns in New Hampshire, receiving permission in the writ of election, were represented in the same assembly.

From what motives or influenced by what considerations the people of Plymouth passed by the Websters, Colonel Hobart, Captain Cummings, Francis Worcester, Samuel Emerson, Benjamin Goold, Ebenezer Blodgett, Samuel Dearborn, John Wiloughby, Jacob Merrill, and others, whom they delighted to honor, and elected John Fenton, a newcomer and a pronounced Tory, was left unsolved in a former chapter and still remains an unexplained mystery.

The first provincial congress to which Abel Webster had been elected convened at Exeter July 21, 1774. This body chose John Sullivan and Nathaniel Folsom delegates to the general congress of the colonies, and instructed the members of the congress at Exeter to recommend to their respective towns to take into con-

sideration the distressed condition of the town of Boston. The names of sixty-four of the eighty delegates collected through correspondence with town clerks are found in the State Manual for 1897; to which is now added the name of the delegate from Plymouth. In October, 1774, the Continental Congress at Philadelphia adopted a lengthy declaration which became known as the "Association." It was in the nature of a pledge to abstain, as individuals and communities, from imports and exports and the use or consumption of any goods imported from England. The document is found in State Papers, Vol. VII, p. 426. The pledge was sent for approval and adoption to the several towns in the American colonies represented at Philadelphia. At a special town meeting assembled at the meeting-house in Plymouth Jan. 16, 1775, it was voted to adjourn to the house of Moses Dow, and Francis Worcester, David Hobart, Abel Webster, David Webster, Benjamin Goold, Moses Dow, and Samuel Emerson were chosen "to see that the Association be faithfully observed as agreed upon by the Continental Congress." "That we will cheerfully and strictly adhere to and comply with every article recommended to us by the grand Continental Congress, particularly the association, as the rule of our conduct and behavior in order for the redress of our present grievances imposed upon us by the British parliament until they shall be removed."

At the same meeting Abel Webster was chosen a delegate to the second provincial congress at Exeter.

The second provincial congress, composed of one hundred and forty-four delegates, convened at Exeter Jan. 25, 1775. The session was brief, and from the files of the New Hampshire Gazette it is learned that John Sullivan and John Langdon were appointed delegates to the Continental Congress, that a committee was chosen to call another congress, and that an address to the people was adopted.

The proceedings of the third provincial congress indicate the increasing solidity of public sentiment and the near approach of war. This body, elected on a modified plan of representation, was

composed of over one hundred delegates, and convened at Exeter April 21, 1775. This was after the election of John Fenton and previous to the meeting of the colonial assembly. In this congress David Webster was a delegate from Plymouth. The intelligence from Lexington and Concord and the discordant notes of war called many of the delegates to their homes to hasten preparation for the grim struggle now at hand. David Webster returned to Plymouth to mature the military organization of the town. The congress was in recess three days, and when the body reassembled April 25, Abel Webster appears as a delegate from Plymouth. The session was brief, and in the proceedings the town of Plymouth, except as a part of the colony, was not involved. There is no record of adjournment, but the journal ends with the record of the proceedings of May 2.

In the warrant for a meeting to elect a delegate to the fourth provincial congress there was an article "to choose a committee of safety and correspondence in order to keep up and preserve in this day of difficulty connection and the strictest harmony between this and the other towns in this province and the other colonies as well as consult the best method for our own immediate safety." Having chosen Abel Webster a delegate, the town proceeded to the choice of a committee of safety. The men chosen were Samuel Emerson, Thomas Lucas, James Harvel, Benjamin Goold, David Hobart, Jotham Cummings, David Webster, John Wilmoughby, and Elisha Bean. This meeting was held May 8, 1775.

In the proceedings of the fourth provincial congress, which convened May 17, 1775, and was dissolved Nov. 15, 1775, there are several votes which directed the men, controlled the events, and are an essential feature in the history of Plymouth. Abel Webster was an active and useful delegate, representing the towns of Plymouth, Campton, and Rumney. The congress was in recess from July 7 to August 22, and when it reassembled Moses Dow, also of Plymouth, appears as a delegate from Plymouth and Rumney. Abel Webster, however, retained his seat in the congress, attending eighteen days before the recess and fifty-nine

days during the entire session. Mr. Dow was in attendance eleven days.

In May the fourth congress voted to raise three regiments containing two thousand men. These are the regiments, commanded by Colonels Stark, Reed, and Poor, which participated in the siege of Boston and in which there were five men from Plymouth. The congress also determined to raise a company not exceeding sixty men for the defence of the northwestern part of the State. In July it was ordered that two companies be raised and equipped, to be commanded by Capt. John Parker and Capt. James Osgood. Other companies were ordered and sent to the field in the year 1775, but they contained no men from this town and do not demand mention in a history of Plymouth.

The proceedings of the fourth provincial congress is the most instructive and interesting chapter in the Revolutionary history of New Hampshire. The delegates adopted very many recommendations but issued few commands. It was not a law-making body, and it hesitated in assuming legislative functions. The delegates were fully employed as ministers of war, finding little leisure for the discussion of codes and constitutions. So far as they were not in conflict with the changed conditions, the existing laws of the province were accepted, and every statute which barred their free acts in a preparation for war were silently ignored. The organization of the fifteen geographical regiments, as they were constituted during the administration of Gov. John Wentworth, was accepted without thanks or comment. Attention was then directed to the field officers who were still holding commissions issued by Governor Wentworth.

The congress appointed Col. Stephen Evans and Col. Jonathan Chase to fill vacancies in the second and thirteenth regiments. Cols. Jonathan Moulton, Joseph Badger, and Matthew Thornton, who were holding commissions issued by Governor Wentworth, were approved and continued in command. In the fifth regiment Col. Josiah Bartlett, who had recently been removed by Governor Wentworth, was restored to his former position, and

new appointments were made in the remaining regiments. In the course of these proceedings the eighth regiment, including Londonderry, and the sixth regiment, including Keene, were divided, increasing the number to seventeen. Two years later the eighteenth regiment was organized and John McClary appointed colonel.

While these proceedings were under consideration, and before the officers were appointed, Abel Webster, the delegate from Plymouth, in June, 1775, forwarded a letter from Exeter to Plymouth. The original, in the clear handwriting of the writer, is in the office of the town clerk.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Plymouth.

Gentlemen.

As your Representative in Provincial Congress I am to acquaint you that by order of Congress it is Recommended & Desired that you and Town of Plymouth Meet & choose a Sutable person or Agent to meet with the several Agents of the adjoining Towns which meeting of said Agents I appoint to be held at the Court House in said Plymouth on Friday the 23^d Instant one o'clock afternoon then and there when meet to appoint & choose sutable persons to Serve as Field officers in the Regiment of Militia Consisting of those Towns Thus Represented by an Agent. Which said appointment of Officers if approved by said Congress to be by them Commissioned Accordingly

ABEL WEBSTER

Portsmouth June
17th A.D. 1775

This meeting in the newly erected courthouse, called by Abel Webster at the suggestion of the provincial congress, and attended by the sturdy pioneers of the settlements and of the Revolution, can be seen only in imagination, and the voices of the patriots on that occasion are lost in the fading echoes of the past.

Doubtless meetings were attended then as they are now. Those who come the greater distance are the first to arrive. In the absence of a record of the meeting it is pleasing to assume that Thomas Crawford of New Chester and Matthew Thornton of Thornton, coming from opposite directions, were the earliest

arrivals. They came on horseback, and after noting that the door of the courthouse remained unopened, they repaired to the inn for better acquaintance and an interchange of hospitality. Perhaps from Cockermouth came Ebenezer Melvin. He had been a valiant soldier in the French War and, before he removed to the wilderness, he had been an officer in the militia. He was a dignified man, and people listened whenever he was talking and always saluted him as Captain Melvin. If all the towns send delegates as competent and patriotic as Crawford and Melvin, the selection of officers of the eleventh regiment will be happy and fortuitous.

The next arrival is Alexander Craig, tall, athletic, and vivacious, a man of ability and peaceable with all men who entertained the same opinions. The stirrup cup he drank at the doorsill when leaving his home in Rumney gives an increasing expression of exhaustion. On military principles he procures reinforcement. On this occasion he should have come to Plymouth on a steed caparisoned with the trappings of war, for to-day he is to be nominated for a major of the regiment. Unconscious of the fortunes awaiting him, he came to the meeting mounted on a brood mare with a colt by her side. Honors sometimes approach men unawares.

Now come across the river good men from Holderness. Samuel Shepard, generally vivacious and courteous, to-day is so serious and thoughtful that we passed him without recognition. Some one has told him that possibly he may be nominated for the other major of the regiment, and he appreciates the dangers of the future. With him come William Cox and Nathaniel Thompson, his neighbors and friends, to make certain that the election does not miscarry.

No one yet from Campton — Campton the near neighbor and the constant friend of Plymouth? Where now are the fathers of the blushing boys from beyond Beech Hill who delight in their attentions to the growing and winsome damsels of Plymouth? Ah, here they come. Not one alone, but three or four or five,

riding like mad. Such a clatter of hoof and such clouds of dust, we fail to count them. As they draw near the courthouse they cheer for Hobart and for Webster, and the gratified men of Plymouth hold out the warm hands of recognition. Now all repair to the courthouse, and while the selected agents are nominating Col. David Hobart, Lieut.-Col. David Webster, Maj. Alexander Craig, and Maj. Samuel Shepard the people outside are discussing the recent battle of Bunker Hill, and laughing because Col. John Stark used Fenton's hay for breastworks.

The meeting being over and Plymouth having returned to a normal habit, it would have been a gracious act if Deacon John Willoughby had waited upon his neighbor Colonel Hobart with a tender of congratulations. Perhaps he did so, and on the occasion said, "Did you notice, colonel, that in our meeting yesterday, Alexandria, one of the towns in your regiment, was not represented?" And possibly Colonel Hobart replied, "Well, well, Deacon, until you mentioned it I had not thought of it."

The field officers of nearly all the regiments were appointed by the provincial congress Aug. 24, 1775, when David Hobart was commissioned colonel and David Webster lieutenant-colonel of the eleventh regiment, comprising the towns of Plymouth, Holderness, Campton, Thornton, Rumney, Cockermouth, Alexandria, and New Chester. For some unknown reason the majors were not appointed until November 8, when Samuel Shepard of Holderness was selected first major and Alexander Craig of Rumney second major.

In a study of the war rolls and other papers of the Revolution we should discriminate between a colonel of a geographical regiment and a colonel commanding a regiment in active service. The colonels of the geographical regiments received and executed the orders for raising men and regulating the companies or militia in their respective regiments and performed many duties which in later times have devolved on provost marshals. At the same time they were colonels of organized regiments, and when several companies from the territory of a regiment were called at one

time into active service the colonel sometimes assumed command in the field. In 1778 William Whipple, under a superior commission, commanded a brigade in active service and remained a colonel of a geographical regiment, and David Hobart was the colonel of a geographical regiment until 1779, and also commanded in 1777 a regiment in active service in the field.

On the first of September, 1775, the provincial congress ordered that four regiments of minutemen be enlisted out of the existing geographical regiments of militia. It was a proposed organization within an organization, by which a part of the militia was held in readiness for any emergency. The field officers were appointed, and Benjamin Goold of Plymouth was appointed a major of the third regiment, of which Timothy Walker of Concord was the colonel.

Addressing his letter to the two delegates in the convention resident of Plymouth, Benjamin Goold wrote the following letter declining the appointment, whereupon Joseph Spencer, probably of Charlestown, was appointed. The letter is preserved in the State archives:—

Messrs. Webster & Dow.

This may certify, that whereas you have informed me that I was appointed by Congress a Major in Coll. Walker's Regiment of militia men I am much obliged to Congress for their notice of me in this Respect. But for weighty Reasons I must decline serving my Country in that office, tho' I am always ready, on all occasions, cheerfully to exert my utmost abilities in the service of my Country, & to defend our Liberties & privileges. Therefore you may proceed to a new nomination.

I am Gen^l your friend & Servant

BENJⁿ GOOLD

To Messrs Abel Webster & Moses Dow.

Plymouth October 27, 1775.

The first residents of Plymouth to enlist in the Revolution were Nahum Powers and William Nevins. In their memory and to their honor the fact is here recorded. Both enlisted April 19, 1775, and served in the Hollis company in the Lexington alarm.

They continued with the Hollis company in Colonel Prescott's regiment in the Massachusetts forces until the close of the year, participating in the siege of Boston and sharing the dangers and the honors of Bunker Hill. Many of the articles belonging to the soldiers were laid aside during that memorable battle. William Nevins was subsequently paid one pound and seven shillings for the loss of a knapsack, a tumpline, and a jacket. Nahum Powers was paid nineteen shillings and six pence for the loss of a knapsack, a tumpline, a hat, a jacket, and a bayonet.

Worcester's History of Hollis, a work of unusual accuracy and merit, claims Powers and Nevins as Hollis men. Nahum Powers¹ was born in Hollis. He was one of the grantees of Plymouth, and he removed to this town with the first settlers. He was annually taxed here until and including 1776. Three children were born and his wife died in this town. William Nevins removed from Hollis to Plymouth before 1770, and here lived until he died in the service in 1776. His widow and children were in Plymouth while he was in the army, and after his death continued to live here.

It is probably true that both were temporarily in Hollis when the Lexington alarm was circulated and that they enlisted in that town, but they were acknowledged residents and good citizens of Plymouth. When they were discharged at the close of the year both returned to their homes in Plymouth, and their subsequent enlistments from this town will be recorded in the story of the following years.

Thomas McClure, Joseph Smith, and Joseph Davis served in Colonel Stark's regiment in 1775. McClure enlisted in April

¹ This is to certify the Treasury of the Colony of New Hampshire, That Nahum Powers of Plymouth in the County of Grafton in said Colony did Enlist himself a Soldier in the Continental Army last year [1775] and has Reenlisted again this year, his Pool Tax to the Colony being two shillings and eight pence is by a Resolve of the Congress or General Court of this Colony Released to him

Plymouth 29th May 1776

EBENEZER BLODGET } Select Men
JAMES HARVELL }

and Davis and Smith in May. Their names are not found on the company rolls of the regiment dated Aug. 1, 1775, but they were volunteers from that regiment to serve in Captain Dearborn's company in the famous Arnold expedition to Canada. Thomas McClure came from Merrimack or vicinity to Plymouth, 1768, and died in this town, 1794. Joseph Davis was taxed in Plymouth 1773 only, and Joseph Smith 1773 and 1774, but on the roll of the company of Captain Dearborn they are credited to the town of Plymouth.

On account of the exposure of the locality, the people of Grafton County, during the Revolution, performed a double duty. They were loyal to the State, promptly responding to every call for men and means to prosecute the war. At the same time they were charged with the defence of the northern frontiers. This duty was constant and exacting. It was an added burden to the general sacrifices for American independence.

The provincial congresses were not unmindful of the peril of the frontiers. They were in continued correspondence with John Hurd of Haverhill, Jacob Bayley of Newbury, Vt., and Jeremiah Eames of Northumberland, and sitting in their midst were delegates from the frontiers whose wisdom they recognized and whose advice they respected. Long live the memory of Abel Webster and Moses Dow of Plymouth, John McMurphy of Alexandria, Samuel Hazelton of Cockermouth, Israel Morey and Nathaniel Rogers of Orford, John Wheelock of Hanover, Nehemiah Estabrook of Lebanon, Ephraim Wesson of Haverhill, Richard Young of Piermont, Nathaniel Hovey of Landaff, delegates from the frontiers! They joined with their associates in raising an army for their country first and for their homes, if men were left to defend them. Zealous for the cause of independence, loyal to New Hampshire, and anxious for the security of their homes, their attitude arose to the dignity of statesmanship crowned with sacrifice and heroism.

The invasion of Canada by the American army in 1775 held the enemy on the defensive at their several posts, and the antici-

pated incursions by detachments of the English army augmented by Indians and Tories were temporarily averted.

In May of this year the provincial congress ordered "that a company not exceeding sixty men in the northwesterly parts of the colony be forthwith enlisted to be ready to act as occasion may require." Eight days later orders were made for raising a second company for the defence of the frontiers. It is clearly expressed in the records that these companies were originally proposed for scouting and detached service on the northern frontiers. But in conformity with an enlargement of the policy of the administration, they were joined to Colonel Bedel's regiment and participated in an invasion of Canada. It was understood from the beginning that the first company raised for this service should be enlisted from towns in Grafton County. In this connection the following communication, addressed to the provincial congress, is quoted and self explanatory: —

Gentlemen —

Whereas it hath been Represented to us by M^r Abel Webster member of the Colony Congress for the Town of Plymouth in the County of Grafton, That your Honours propos'd & ordered one Company of Foot to be Raised in the County of Grafton, for the Defence of the Country one half of said Company to be raised in the Towns Scituate on Connecticut River & the other half on the Towns Scituate on Pemegiwassitte River, and that the Orders for Raising said Company was delivered to Israel Morey Esq^r of Orford to be by him communicated to said Webster & by them to be proportioned upon each River, Yet Nevertheless as we Understand the said Israel Morey Esq^r keeps the said orders to himself or from this part of the County in order to raise the whole of said Company on Connecticutt River as he has had no connection or advice with said Webster or any other person in this part of the County concerning the same We therefore the agents of the several Towns hereafter Mentioned beg Leave to remonstrate to your Honours against the proceeding of said Esq^r Morey, conceiving that by his thus proceeding he has not only thwarted the order and advice of Congress or said Committee of Safety but also put this part of the County under a very Unequal footing with the other part in bearing the publick charge in not having the Priviledge in raising our proportion of Men, We therefore desire that Your Honours would Interpose in said affair by pointing out to

the said Esq^r Morey the Path of Justice & Generosity by ordering him to Give up the orders to this part of the County to raise half of said Company or otherwise as your Honors think proper

Plymouth 23 June 1775

For Plymouth Sam^l Emerson

Runney Jonathan hall

For N. Holderness Sam^l Sheperd

For N. Chest^r Carr Huse

Thornton Ezekiel Eliot

Cockersmouth Ebenezer Kendall

For Alexandrae Jonathⁿ Cauleys

Campton Gershom Burbanks

Confident of obtaining satisfaction in the premises, and that in response to the ponderous document of the committees for the towns the congress would reveal "to the said Esq. Morey the path of justice," on the same day three of the field officers of the eleventh regiment petitioned for the appointment of a recruiting officer.

To the Committee of Safety appointed by the Colony of new Hampshire or the Congress of said Colony — Gentlemen, whereas we are Informed the Honourable Congress appointed that there should be a Company of men Raised in this County for the Safety of the Frontier Towns and that part of said Company is to be Raised out of this Regiment, we would recommend Cap^t Matthew Thornton as a Man Shutable, we Think, to Inlist said Company and a man that we Can Depend upon in the graitest Troble or Destress which if your Honours Thought proper to give him orders for so Dowing we Think that he Could Raise a Company in a Short Time and it would give Sattysfaction to the new Towns heare, and obldige your Hum^{ble} Serts.

Plymouth June 23 1775

DAVID HOBART

DAVID WEBSTER

SAM^L SHEPERD.

From a standpoint of 1775 Capt. Matthew Thornton was entitled to the commendation expressed in this letter, and there is no sinister meaning in the spelling of "suitable." At this time he was a delegate from Thornton and well known to the gentle-

men to whom the letter was addressed. Captain Thornton was appointed to recruit the company and, as predicted in the letter, forty-three men were soon enrolled. In the meantime James Osgood, who had been selected for a captain of the company, had enlisted twenty men, and early in July the company was organized and mustered into the service. The officers were James Osgood of Conway, captain, Matthew Thornton of Thornton, first lieutenant, and Jotham Cummings of Plymouth, second lieutenant. The men from Plymouth in this company were William Greenough, drummer, Silas Brown, Samuel Drew, Hugh Ramsey, Zebadiah Richardson, Samuel Wallace, and James Whiting. In his return of the men enlisted, Matthew Thornton records Zebadiah Richardson a resident of New Chester. Beginning 1773, Zebadiah Richardson lived in Plymouth many years. In the same return Samuel Wallace and James Whiting are recorded of Plymouth. They were never taxed in this town, and their names are included solely on the authority of Thornton's return. Joining the regiment commanded by Colonel Bedel, they marched to Haverhill, across Vermont to Lake Champlain, and thence to St. Johns. The company participated in the investment and capitulation of St. Johns and, after a service of unusual severity, the men were discharged late in December. For an account of this campaign the reader is referred to an excellent article by Edgar Aldrich in Volume III, Proceedings of the New Hampshire Historical Society.

Connected with the invasion of Canada in 1775, and an officer in Colonel Bedel's regiment, was Noah Phillips of Plymouth. His name is not found on any existing roll. He died near the close of the campaign. He was one of the brave men of the Revolution, drawn from mortal sight into the devouring maelstrom of war, leaving no tidings of his fate, and committing to later generations the story of his service and the record of his death.

The following testimony of his service is found in the Bedel papers in the custody of the New Hampshire Historical Society. It is dated during the siege of St. Johns.

ST. JOHNS October 12th 1775

Rec^d of Col^o Timothy Bedel Two Hundred Pounds One Shilling and Nine Pence Lawful Money for the use of the Men under my Command which I Promise to be accountable for as witness my hand £200-1-9

NOAH PHILLIPS

In December, 1775, the army at Winter Hill, near Boston, was reinforced by thirty-one companies of six weeks' men from New Hampshire. In the company of Capt. Noah Worcester of Hollis was Samuel Ambrose, who came from Hollis to Plymouth in 1773, and was continuously taxed in this town, 1774-82. Subsequently he was a Baptist preacher, residing in Sutton.

The fourth provincial congress directed that "an exact account of all the inhabitants of the colony be taken," and instructed the selectmen of towns to return the census. The enumeration for Plymouth was made in October as follows:—

Males under sixteen years of age	93
Males from sixteen years of age to fifty not in the army	83
All males above fifty years of age	15
Persons gone in the army	8
All females	178
Negroes and Slaves for Life	5
	<hr/> 382

The increase over the census of 1773 was thirty-seven. The eight men in the army without doubt were the eight men who enlisted at Plymouth and were outfitted by the town. The other residents of Plymouth in the army enlisted from other places and are not included in the return.

In a search for the fifteen venerable fathers of Plymouth over fifty years of age are found Gershom Fletcher, 73, Benjamin Dearborn, 62, Gershom Hobart, 58, Stephen Webster, 57, Amos Phillips, 56, Josiah Brown, 55, Ebenezer Blodgett, 55, Jonas Ward, 55, Onesipherus Marsh, 55, Rev. Nathan Ward, 54, Francis Worcester, 54, David Hobart, 53, Joseph Wheeler, George Hull, and Ebenezer Hartshorn. The age of the last three

is not known, but each was more than fifty. Dr. John Brown had removed from Plymouth a few months before the census was taken.

On the first day of November, 1775, it was ordered by the provincial congress that precepts be forwarded to the towns calling for the election of delegates for the term of one year, to constitute the fifth provincial congress to be convened at Exeter Dec. 21, 1775. As a part of this proceeding a new plan of representation was adopted, by which Grafton County was allowed to elect six of the eighty-nine delegates to be chosen. The towns of Plymouth, Cokermonth, New Chester, and Alexandria were classed and permitted to send one delegate. The election of a delegate representing the four towns was consummated at the courthouse in Plymouth on the twelfth day of December. In the absence of the records of Plymouth, the date of the election is found in the following remonstrance. The signers are Plymouth men.

Plymouth 12th Decr 1775.

To the Honourable Congress of the Colony of New Hampshire —
May it please your Honors —

We your humble petitioners beg leave to lay before you our Remonstrances against the proceedings at a Meeting of Number of the Inhabitants of this Town together with a few from the Towns of New Chester Cokermonth and Alexandria, held at the Court-House in Plimouth, the 12th of this Instant in order to make choice of a delegate to represent said Towns in Provincial Congress.

We beg leave to inform your Honors, that the Inhabitants of the Town of Alexandria by reason of the distance of Way and Difficulty of Traveling at this time of the Year convened and chose Men and sent them to Plimouth to act in behalf of the Town; but they were suffered to act in no other Capacity than as Individuals, by which means they were deprived of a Share in the Choice of a Representative. Also that a party Spirit has much prevailed in this Town of late which we are very sorry for — And we think sundry People have been influenced thereby — And that the Gentleman lately elected was chosen by a party. And we think Things have not been fairly conducted.

We are dissatisfied with the above proceedings, therefore beg of your

Honors to condescend so far as to grant a Warrant for another Meeting or permit another Choice to be made in such a Manner as that the whole may have a Voice in said Election.

David Webster	Stephen Webster Jun ^r	John Webber
Silas Brown	Jacob Marsh	Jonas Ward
Sam ^l Dearborn	Samuel Marsh	Amos Fisk
Edward Evans	Benjamin Dearborn	Paul Wells
Onesiphorous Marsh	Peter Emerson	Josiah Brown
Benjamin Wells	Winthrop Wells	Joseph Read

At the same time twenty-seven men of Alexandria preferred a remonstrance reciting that two selectmen attended the election for the purpose of voting for all the voters of that town, "And the Modretar Refused to Let them cerrey in Voies for the Legal Voters of s^d Toun Without evir Putting it to Vot to Se Whither the Rist of the towns Wood consent of it."

These remonstrances were considered by the congress, and the following entries were made in the journal:—

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Alexandria &C against the election of Mr. Samuel Emerson as a member of this Congress being read & considered,

Voted, That the said Samuel Emerson was duly Elected and that he Take his seat in this House accordingly.

In this election of Samuel Emerson to the fifth provincial congress the Webster party of Plymouth for the first time was defeated and Abel Webster was suddenly retired from public service. In future years the defeated party was compensated with many victories and its leaders rewarded with increasing honors. In cordially congratulating Samuel Emerson upon the earliest of his many substantial preferments, we feel an instant regret in the absence of Abel Webster from the arena of public affairs. He had been a faithful servant of the people and a consistent advocate of the cause of independence, and while the journals of the congresses are abbreviated, they afford ample evidence of the dignity and ability of the delegate from Plymouth in an eventful and exacting period of the history of New Hampshire.

IX. THE REVOLUTION, 1776.

IT was scarce twelve years since Plymouth was an unbroken forest. The growth of the colony on the Pemigewasset had been constant and substantial. In 1776 there were four hundred men, women, and children dwelling in the township. The homes of brave men were grouped in the fertile intervalles and scattered among the clearings on the hillsides. In the annals of New Hampshire it will be difficult to discover a settlement so young in years and so few in numbers containing men of equal intelligence and courage. Here were the homes of Francis Worcester, Abel, Stephen, and David Webster, Moses Dow, David Hobart, Benjamin Goold, Samuel Emerson, Ebenezer and James Blodgett, Benjamin and Samuel Dearborn, Jotham Cummings, Josiah Brown, Jacob Merrill, Winthrop Wells, Zachariah Parker, Elisha Bean, William Nevins, Thomas Lucas, James Harvell, James Hobart, Samuel Marsh, John Willoughby, and other brave men who loyally supported every civil order and war measure of the new government of New Hampshire. Captains in war and counsellors in town meetings, these fearless and sagacious leaders added dignity to the zeal of the growing settlement. The fifth provincial congress, which convened in December, 1775, resolved itself into a house of representatives, and on the fifth day of January adopted a temporary constitution. By the terms of this instrument a distinct and co-ordinate branch of the legislature was created, which, following the usage of the colony, was called the council. In later times this body has been styled the senate. Grafton County was permitted to elect one of the twelve councillors. During the Revolution and the period of the temporary constitution there was no governor. The council and the house,

or the committee of safety, during recesses of the legislature exercised executive functions. For the political year 1776 the councillors were elected by the house of representatives, and in subsequent years by the people. In an election of the first council John Hurd of Haverhill was selected for Grafton County. As stated in the preceding chapter, the fourth provincial congress adopted a plan of representation for the succeeding congress which became a legislature, by which all the smaller towns of the colony and all the towns of Grafton County were classed, and each class entitled to one representative. There were six classes in Grafton County,¹ and five were represented in 1776. The towns in the Hanover and Lebanon class refused to send a representative. This refusal to send a representative from one of the classes is a first open expression of dissatisfaction with the government at Exeter, which, during the Revolution, found repeated expression in the towns near the Connecticut River. Several conventions were assembled and resolutions of severe criticism were adopted. This rebellion within a revolution, logically advanced and in a measure justifiable, is a proper subject for an important chapter in the history of Grafton County. In the assembly of the malcontents Plymouth was not represented, and in the Vermont controversy this town was not involved. In any trial for such offences the men of Plymouth, in the story of loyal service, set up an alibi. The provincial congresses attempted to reorganize the military arm of the government, but paid little attention to civil affairs. The appointments made and commissions issued by Governor Wentworth were void, civil offices were vacated, and the courts were

¹ For the purpose of representation the thirty-four towns of Grafton County were divided into six classes, as follows:—

1. Plymouth, Cockermouth, New Chester, and Alexandria.
2. Hanover, Lebanon, Relhan, Canaan, Cardigan, and Grafton.
3. Haverhill, Bath, Lyman, Gunthwait, Landaff, and Morristown.
4. Rumney, Holderness, Campton, and Thornton.
5. Orford, Lyme, Piermont, Dorchester, Wentworth, and Warren.
6. Lancaster, Apthorp, Northumberland, Stratford, Cockburn, Colburn, Conway, Shelburne, and other towns above.

closed. Only a commendable temper and behavior preserved an orderly conduct of the people.

In January, 1776, the legislature effected a reorganization of State and county administration, and in Grafton County the following appointments were made:—

Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas — John Hurd of Haverhill. Justices — Elisha Payne of Lebanon, Bezaleel Woodward of Hanover and Samuel Emerson of Plymouth.

Judge of Probate — Israel Morey of Orford

Register of Probate — Elisha Payne of Lebanon

Sheriff — Jotham Cummings of Plymouth.

County Treasurer — John Hurd of Haverhill

Recorder of Deeds — John Hurd of Haverhill

Coroner — Francis Worcester of Plymouth

John Hurd of Haverhill, Samuel Emerson of Plymouth, and Daniel Brainerd of Rumney were designated to administer the oaths to the county officers and to transfer to them the county records.

Comparing the new roster with the appointments made by Governor Wentworth in 1773, the three appointments of John Hurd and the appointment of Bezaleel Woodward were reappointments. David Hobart, being engaged in military duties, and Asa Porter, living on "Tory road," were succeeded as judges by Samuel Emerson and Elisha Payne. Jonathan M. Sewall, the Register of Probate, did not become a permanent resident of the county, and was succeeded by Elisha Payne. Col. John Fenton, for obvious reasons, had vacated the office of Judge of Probate, and Israel Morey was appointed. William Simpson, the sheriff, for reasons not now discernible, was succeeded by Jotham Cummings. To these appointments was added that of Samuel Emerson, the first Justice of the Peace under the new government.

The second year of the war was eventful. The last hope of an amicable adjustment of difficulties with the mother country had expired. The early hesitating measures of resistance and defence on the part of the colonies now assume the gravity and dignity of

war. The British government no longer oppresses a dependent, but engages in grim war with a nation.

In January the house of representatives directed the receiver-general to purchase firearms for the use of New Hampshire, and directed that each musket purchased should be tested in the presence of the receiver-general "with four Inches & a half of Powder well wadded at the owners own Risque." The legislature assumed the risk of the receiver-general. At the same time it was ordered "that there be appointed one Good man well approved in each County to receive any fire arms so made in said County." Samuel Emerson was the good man well approved to receive the firearms in Grafton County.

On account of the exposure of their situation, and in anticipation of other demands upon the frontiers, it is not probable that Grafton County furnished many, or that Plymouth furnished any, men to recruit the three continental regiments in the field.

Being advised to such proceeding by letters from General Washington, the house of representatives voted, January 20, "to raise one Regiment of Soldiers Forthwith to Consist of Eight Companies," and it was further ordered that the regiment shall be raised for the northern army commanded by General Schuyler in Canada and shall serve until the first of next January unless sooner discharged. The regiment was hastily raised and equipped, and Col. Timothy Bedel was appointed to the command. The story of the forced march of this regiment into Canada, the valor and misfortunes of the men, the surrender of a detachment at the Cedars, and a broken army retreating from Canada is a sad but interesting chapter in the annals of New Hampshire.

In the company of this regiment, commanded by Capt. Edward Everett of Rumney, were sixteen Plymouth men. They enlisted in January and February and were in the service very nearly one year. In this company Amos Webster, a younger brother of Col. David Webster, was an ensign, and Paul Wells and William Tarlton were sergeants. The other men from Plymouth were Edward Evans, Nathaniel Webster, Ebenezer Blodgett, Thomas Lucas,

Ezekiel Keyes, Stephen Keyes, David Nevins, David Nevins, Jr., Nehemiah Snow, Nahum Powers, James Barnes, Joseph Hobart, and Jeremiah Blodgett. John Calef of this town was in Captain Young's company. Samuel Wallace, whose residence at this time is uncertain, was in Captain Wilkins' company, and Starling Heath, who served in Captain Everett's company, at this time was a resident of New Chester. In this arduous campaign occurred the loss of the second and the third Plymouth men who died in the service. At the time of the retreat from Canada, at or near Ticonderoga, Ebenezer Blodgett and Jeremiah Blodgett died of camp fever. They were brothers, and sons of Jeremiah Blodgett of Hudson. They came to Plymouth several years before the war, and both were married in this town. For some reason the name of Jeremiah Blodgett is not found on the roll of the company, but there is unmistakable evidence that the two brothers enlisted and served in the army together, and that both died about the same time. The father, receiving intelligence of their sickness, hastened from Hudson to Ticonderoga, and was there apprised of their death. He bore the contagion of camp fever to his home, and another member of his family sickened and died.

The misfortune of the army in Canada, and the retreat before a pursuing and well-armed foe, cast a gloom over New Hampshire. On the frontiers there were forebodings approaching a panic. These fears were not groundless. From nearly every town on the Connecticut River and the northern frontier the government received petitions for arms and military supplies. In the archives of the State is preserved a petition preferred at this time by the selectmen of Plymouth. They had brave men to defend them, trusted captains to lead them, and a beloved and devout pastor to pray with them. The petition is instructive. They had the remaining essentials, and all they requested was a good supply of guns and powder and lead.

The petition of us the Subscribers humbly sheweth :

That the Inhabitants of the Town of Plymouth in said Colony upon receiving intelligence from Haverhill & Newbury of Coos, that our army

in Canada has been obliged to Retreat to St. Johns & that the Inhabitants on Onion River had moved off on that account, and if our Army should be obliged to make a further Retreat it must leave the settlements on Connecticut River and the Frontiers which we have reason to expect will be infested very soon with enemy — which as we are the next considerable Inhabitants, as also the adjacent towns must be in a dangerous scituation, which gives great distress & uneasiness to said Inhabitants and more especially as we are deficient in firearms & almost void of ammunition, and for which deficiency it is at present out of our Power to extricate ourselves from, without the assistants and help of the Colony: we therefore pray your Honours to take our case into consideration and grant us out of the stock of said Colony for said town of Plymouth, to be accountable for, one hundred pounds of Powder, and about Forty fire-arms & about one hundred weight of lead.

SAMUEL EMERSON	} Select Men.
EBENEZER BLODGET	
JAMES HARVELL	

About the same time the selectmen of Walpole wrote the government at Exeter, "The alarming News from our Northern Army excites in us Ideas big with concern. We behold our Wives and our more helpless Offspring an easy Prey to Savages whose tender mercies are cruelty." They also apply for arms and ammunition.

The selectmen and committee of safety of Holderness repeat the rumors that were prevailing and continue "apprehending ourselves in the greatest danger from the troops and scouting parties of Indians that may be sent down to annoy and destroy us; and being in no capacity for defence do in behalf of the said town pray your honours to send us by the bearer hereof, Mr. Samuel Curry, the necessary powder musquet balls and flints for thirty three able and effective men, belonging to the said town, who are ready with their lives and fortunes to assert and maintain the American cause."

Other towns on the frontiers, by swift messengers, forwarded similar communications, and New Hampshire begged of Massachusetts the loan of thirty or forty barrels of gunpowder.

While these petitions were accumulating, and influenced by the

conditions which prompted them, the government ordered the enlistment of four companies for the protection of the menaced frontiers. In the language of the journal, "The Committee of both houses agree to report, that they advise the raising of two hundred men to guard the western frontiers and that enlisting orders be given to persons to raise four companies of fifty men each. . . . And that they would advise that the raising the men be attempted on Pemigewasset river and across the middle of the colony. . . . That Col. Ashley, Col. Connor, Samuel Emerson, Esq. and Col. Hurd be recommended to enlist the companies." The four companies were raised, and the rolls are found in the printed Revolutionary records: Capt. Thomas Simpson of Haverhill, with fifty-two men serving two months; Capt. Samuel Atkinson of Boseawen, with fifty men serving three months; Capt. Josiah Russell of Plainfield, with fifty-four men serving two months, and Capt. Jeremiah Eames, with fifty men serving from July 13 until Oct. 13, 1776.

The men enlisted "on the Pemigewasset" were in the company commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Eames of Northumberland, whom the committee of safety instructed as follows:—

To Capt. Jeremiah Eames.

You are hereby authorized to enlist fifty good able bodied and effective men to serve as soldiers under you for three months, unless sooner discharged, as scouting parties to make their head quarters at Great Cohoss, not taking more than ten of the inhabitation of Great Cohoss in the number. And you are to make return as often as you can conveniently of your routes discoveries &c.

Of this company Zachariah Parker of Plymouth was a lieutenant, and the other men from this town were Dr. Abijah Wright, Samuel Marsh, James Whiting, David Cunningham, John Willoughby, and Edward Taylor. They had headquarters at Northumberland, erecting Fort Weare and guarding in detachments many miles of frontier. One Jacob Draper served in Captain Eames' company, and possibly the same who removed to Plymouth, 1790.

Moor Russell, subsequently an honored citizen of Plymouth, while a resident of Haverhill served in Capt. Josiah Russell's company, and Jonathan Robbins, then a resident of New Ipswich, was a lieutenant in Capt. Samuel Atkinson's company, and when discharged from service he removed immediately to Plymouth. John Phillips of Plymouth served in Capt. Thomas Simpson's company. Thus the town was represented in each of the four companies raised to defend the frontiers.

During this season of frequent alarms, and while a general fear of invasion was prevailing, the patriots of this town performed a gallant and meritorious service. Plymouth, like the other frontier towns, was exposed to a common danger, but they heard the cry of Haverhill and of Lancaster and marched to their relief. The company or detachment was under the command of Lieut.-Col. David Webster, and was absent from home seventeen days. A roll of the company is not found in the State archives, and the number and the names of the men are probably lost forever. The evidence of this service is found in a schedule of New Hampshire companies and regiments in the Revolution, which was prepared by the commissioners in their statement of the demands of the State against the United States. The item is as follows:—

Lieut. Col. David Webster's company at Coos from June 29 to July, 15, 1776.

In the summer of this year the government raised two regiments to re-enforce the northern army. These were commanded by Colonel Wyman and Colonel Wingate. In the assignment of the number of men to be raised in each geographical regiment, for obvious reasons the frontier regiments were excused, and none of the men were enlisted in the regiments of Colonel Hobart, Colonel Chase, and Colonel Morey. The very few men from Grafton County in this service probably enlisted from some other locality. Thomas McClure of Plymouth served in Captain Barron's company of Colonel Wyman's regiment. This company was raised in Merrimack and vicinity.

In September New Hampshire raised an additional regiment to re-enforce the army in New York. The colonel was Nahum Baldwin of Amherst, and in the company of Capt. John House of Hanover were five men from Plymouth. They were Abel Webster, Amos Thompson, Nehemiah Hardy, Daniel Wheeler, and David Durkee. The regiment was in the battle of White Plains, and was dismissed in December. Samuel Wallace was in this company, but he was not then a resident of this town. In the regiment raised in this State in December, and commanded by Col. David Gilman of Pembroke, were two men from Plymouth. They were Henry Snow and Ebenezer Keyes. The regiment participated in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and was discharged in March, 1777. Solomon Blood, who served in Colonel Gilman's regiment, had resided in this town. After 1774 he lived in Groton, and is properly credited to that town.

In 1776 Benjamin Snow of Plymouth was commissioned an ensign in the continental service. He will be the subject of a paragraph in the following chapter. The record of this eventful year includes the service of thirty-one residents of Plymouth and of several who subsequently became valued citizens of the town.

In the paragraph concerning Colonel Bedel's regiment reference was made to the surrender of a detachment of the army at the Cedars. Nahum Powers, Ebenezer Blodgett, and James Barnes are named in the list of the men surrendered, May 21, 1776, published in Force's Archives.

The history and character of the Association Test are familiar to all. The returns from nearly one hundred towns are preserved. There is no return from this town, and if the paper was circulated and signed by the men of Plymouth it has been lost. There are returns from Lebanon, Enfield, Piermont, and Canaan, and from no other town of Grafton County.

There is no available explanation of the following charges against the town. The originals are found in the State archives.

1776 The Town of Plymouth

To Abel Webster Dr

February.	To myself, horse & Expense in a journey to Bath after the Indians, on account of one being sick at Boscawen	£ 1-7-0
March —	To myself, two horses a man & Expenses in a journey to Orford transporting 1 dead & 1 live Indian	<u>1.-13-0</u>
		£ 3-0-0

The Town of Plymouth

To Samuel Dearborn Dr.

Feb'y 1776.	To myself, horse & Expense in a journey to Haverhill helping to transport a live Indian and a dead Indian	£, 0.-18-0
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Which of these two was a good Indian is declared in a common saying, but how one of them became dead is not known, and it is now too late to hold an inquest.

X. THE REVOLUTION, 1777.

IN the New England towns and homes this was the saddest and most gloomy year of the war. The increasing burden of public charges was onerous, and the taxgatherer consumed the products of industry and the fruits of the farm. The discouragements of the hour were accumulative. To further test the courage and the faith of the patriot was added the depressing intelligence of the retreat of the Americans from Ticonderoga, and the unobstructed advance of the proud and well-equipped army under Burgoyne. Apparently incursions and invasions by the enemy were inevitable, and again the frontiers were menaced with instant danger. The details of 1777 are extended, but the summary is concise. Plymouth paid the taxes and raised the men.

The three continental regiments, formerly commanded by Cols. John Stark, James Reed, and Enoch Poor, were reorganized and placed under the command of Cols. Joseph Cilley, Nathan Hale, and Alexander Scammell. During the retreat from Ticonderoga Colonel Hale was made a prisoner, and Col. George Reid of Londonderry subsequently commanded the second continental regiment. To avoid the inconvenience experienced in the past, it was ordered to fill these regiments with men enlisted for three years or for the war. The quota of Col. David Hobart's regiment was 47, to be distributed among the towns of his regiment on the basis of the number of men in each town from sixteen to fifty years of age. The number of men enrolled in Plymouth was 91, Thornton 54, Rumney 52, Campton 45, New Chester 38, Holderness 36, Alexandria 34, and Cockermouth 28. The quota of Plymouth was 11, which was promptly filled. They were Paul Wells, James

Barnes, Elijah Lucas, Samuel Hull, Nathaniel Hull, Silas Brown, Joseph Hobart, John Phillips, Abel Webster, Jr., Edward Evans, and Benjamin Phillips. Ten of the eleven men on the quota of Plymouth were assigned to one company in Colonel Scammell's regiment. The officers of this company were Capt. Benjamin Stone of Atkinson, First Lieut. Benjamin Hickok of Campton, Second Lieut. Amos Webster of Plymouth, and Ensign Joshua Eaton of Goffstown. Being a commissioned officer, Lieut. Amos Webster was not allowed on the quota of the town. Benjamin Phillips, the eleventh man on the quota, was assigned to the company commanded by Capt. John House in Colonel Cilley's regiment.

Having fully answered the requisition of the State for men, the patriotism of Plymouth was not exhausted, and the ambition of the town was not satisfied. Four additional men enlisted into the continental service. They were David Nevins, Sr., Henry Snow, Josiah Willoughby, and Joseph Smith. Henry Snow was assigned to Captain Frye's company, Colonel Cilley's regiment, and the others served with other Plymouth men in Captain Stone's company.

In May and June the people of New Hampshire were disquieted by the situation of the northern army. The steady approach of the enemy caused universal apprehension. In May an alarm was sounded that Ticonderoga was in danger, and many companies from New Hampshire and Massachusetts marched to the relief of the fortress. Being assured that the Americans could "hold the fort," these companies were ordered home. It was a useless campaign, but a sublime exhibition of patriotism. In June the cry of "wolf" was again sounded. This time the wolf was near the fold. Post riders bore the foreboding intelligence with celerity from town to town. Crown Point had fallen, and if Ticonderoga was surrendered it was feared the enemy would invade Vermont and New Hampshire. The alarm was great and the call was imperative. Unmindful of the fable, the farmer again forsook the field and took up arms.

In this service Lieut.-Col. David Webster commanded a detachment of fifty-two men, including officers, raised in Colonel Hobart's regiment. During the night of the first day of their march towards Ticonderoga the fort was evacuated. But news was communicated slowly in those days, and Colonel Webster continued the march until he met the retreating army. The caption of Colonel Webster's roll is as follows:—

Pay Roll of a Company of Militia commanded by Lieut. Col. David Webster which marched from Plymouth and Towns Adjacent to reenforce the Garrison at Ticonderoga on the Alarm in July 1777. And proceeded as far as Cavendish where we met our troops on their retreat. Engaged July 5, 1777 and discharg'd July 16, 1777.

The line officers were John Willoughby of Plymouth, captain, Joseph Shepard of Holderness, lieutenant, Cutting Favor of New Chester, second lieutenant, and Edmund Shattuck of Cockermouth, ensign. Dr. Abijah Wright was the surgeon of the battalion, and Lieut. Jonathan Robbins adjutant, both of Plymouth. Omitting forty-two from other towns, the men from Plymouth were Peter Stearns, sergeant, Benjamin Wells, corporal, Josiah Brown, Jr., Michael Dearborn, Solomon Hobart, Francis Worcester, Jr., Daniel Clough Webster.

In the progress of these events the dangers of the hour were cumulative, and the fears and despondency of the people were quickened and augmented. The unobstructed army of Burgoyne was beginning the fulfilment of a declared purpose of marching to New York, and detachments from his command were making predatory incursions into Vermont, then called the New Hampshire Grants. The gallant and resolute men of Vermont refused to extend to their unwelcome guests the hospitality of the State, and called upon New Hampshire for help in their expulsion. Dwelling in Vermont were many men and women from the homes and firesides of New Hampshire. To many the voice of Vermont was the entreaty of a relative, and to all joined in the sublime effort of the Revolution the appeal of a patriot was the prayer of a brother. The response of New Hampshire, supported by the

spirit of patriotism and hallowed by the ties of kindred, was a smile on the rugged features of adversity and a halo over the grim visage of war.

The council and house of representatives having adjourned from June 28 to September 17, the committee of safety called a special session, which convened July 17, 1777. The legislature immediately directed that the geographical regiments be organized in two brigades,¹ and that the regiments of Colonels Whipple, Evans, Moulton, Gilman, Bartlett, Thornton, Webster, Badger, and McClary should constitute the first brigade, to be commanded by Brig.-Gen. William Whipple, and that the regiments of Colonels Nichols, Ashley, Moore, Stickney, Hale, Bellows, Hobart, Morey, and Chase should constitute the second brigade, to be commanded by Brig.-Gen. John Stark. In the call for men in this emergency it was required that the colonels of each geographical regiment should furnish a proportion of the men to be raised, but any one colonel was not expected to raise a number of companies sufficient to constitute a regiment in service. Orders were given to the colonels of the four northern regiments (Hobart, Morey, Chase, and Bellows) to organize in one regiment all the companies raised by them. The field officers of the four regiments met at Lebanon July 25, to select the required officers and arrange for the completion of the organization. Colonel Hobart was selected to command, and none of the four regiments were overlooked in the selection of the remaining officers. Charles Johnston of Haverhill was the lieutenant-colonel, William Hayward of Charlestown, major, Jonathan Robbins of Plymouth, adjutant, Davenport Phelps of Piermont, and a grandson of President Wheelock of Dartmouth College, quartermaster, and Dr. Solomon Chase of

¹ The organization of the militia of the State in two brigades appears to have been a measure of emergency. June 20 preceding this action, the legislature had ordered that the regiments be divided into three brigades. The geographical regiments in the three brigades are indicated by naming the colonels. First Brigade: Colonels Whipple, Evans, Moulton, Gilman, Bartlett, McClary. Second Brigade: Colonels Thornton, Webster (John), Nichols, Hale (Enoch), Ashley, Bellows. Third Brigade: Colonels Moore, Stickney, Badger, Hobart, Morey, Chase.

Cornish, surgeon. A few days later Colonel Hobart appointed Rev. Augustine Hibbard of Claremont chaplain of the regiment. Subsequently Mr. Hibbard was chaplain of the brigade. In the regiment were five companies, commanded by Capt. Edward Eliot of Thornton, 48 men, Capt. Abel Walker of Charlestown, 60 men, Capt. Jeremiah Post of Orford, 49 men, Capt. Joshua Hendee of Hanover 62 men, and Capt. Christopher Webber of Walpole, 52 men.

The men from Plymouth in Captain Eliot's company were Samuel Marsh, Ezekiel Keyes, Josiah Brown, Jr., George Patterson, Peter Stearns, Nehemiah Snow, James Blodgett, John Willoughby, Jr., Solomon Hobart, and Zebadiah Richardson.

Onesipherus Marsh of Plymouth enlisted, and his name appears in the roll of recruits, but is not found in the payroll of the company. The name of Richardson is Zebadiah in the roll of recruits, and by error Obadiah in the payroll.

Noah Worcester, a fifer in Captain Goss' company of Col. Moses Nichols' regiment, who served from July 20 to September 28, 1777, and was engaged in the battle of Bennington, was then a resident of Plymouth. He served in the siege of Boston from Hollis in 1775, and removed to Plymouth in 1776, teaching a term of school in the village the winter before, and continuously several winters after the battle of Bennington. He was taxed in this town, 1777-81. In this service he should be credited to Plymouth. Very probably he served in another regiment in response to a call for a fifer.

At the battle of Bennington Colonel Hobart led the attack on the Tory breastworks. The commander and his men won distinction and the commendation of General Stark for bravery and gallant conduct. Solomon Hobart, the fourth Plymouth man to die in service, was killed during the battle. The regiment joined General Gates at Saratoga, and at the expiration of their term of service the men were discharged, September 18, the day before the battle of Bemis Heights. Eight days were allowed for travel home, and the payrolls were made up to September 26.

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General Gates, commanding the army at Saratoga, made a call upon New Hampshire for re-enforcement. The regiments in the western half of the State having furnished the men for the Bennington campaign, it was expected that General Whipple's brigade would meet the existing emergency. The brigade responded with enthusiasm, but it was not permitted to furnish all the men. The day the heroes of Bennington were returning to their homes a regiment of volunteers to re-enforce the army at Saratoga was raised within the geographical regiments of Colonels Hobart, Morey, and Chase.

The field officers were Col. Jonathan Chase of Cornish, Lieut.-Col. David Webster of Plymouth, and Maj. Jonathan Child of Lyme, one officer being selected from each regiment. The chaplain was Rev. Oliver Noble, then of Orford and subsequently the distinguished minister of New Castle. The adjutants were William Dana of Lebanon and Simeon Goodwin of Haverhill. Seven companies, commanded by Capts. Samuel Payne, Edmund Freeman, Moses Whipple, Abel Stevens, Joshua Wells, John Lasel, and John Wheelock — in all nearly one hundred and fifty men — were from Colonel Chase's regiment. The companies were hastily raised, and some of them were very small. Two companies, commanded by Capts. Joshua Hayward of Haverhill, 36 men, and Jonathan Chandler of Orford, 30 men, were from Colonel Morey's regiment. One company, commanded by Capt. John Willoughby of Plymouth, was from Colonel Hobart's regiment. Raised for emergency service, the regiment was quickly assembled and hurried to the army in New York. The men were enlisted from the more sparsely settled towns and from a territory comprising one-third of the area of the State.

The ten companies, from a military standpoint, were a unit of organization, and if combined would constitute a completed regiment, having the required number and rank of field and staff officers. The companies were hurriedly marched to Saratoga in two detachments, commanded respectively by Colonel Chase and Lieutenant-Colonel Webster. The men of the seven companies of

Colonel Chase's detachment were recruited within his regiment of militia. The three companies commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Webster were recruited from Colonel Morey's and Colonel Hobart's regiments. The major and the chaplain were with Lieutenant-Colonel Webster. Colonel Chase, with the companies in his command, marched from Cornish, September 26, one week after the battle of Bemis Heights, and Lieutenant-Colonel Webster probably set out the following day.

The regiment joined General Whipple's brigade and served in the army under General Gates nearly two months, and was employed with Colonel Warner and Colonel Bellows in holding the line, but was not very seriously engaged in the battle of Saratoga, October 7. Ten days later the officers and men witnessed the surrender of Burgoyne.

If at any time, while in the service at Saratoga, the two detachments were combined in one command they were again separated and were discharged as two separate organizations.

H. Q. SARATOGA Oct^r 18th 1777 —

These may Certify that Col^o Chase with a Regiment of Volunteers have faithfully serv'd until this date in the Northern Army and are now Discharged with Honor.

By order of Gen. Gates

JACOB BAYLEY Brig^r Gen^l

HEADQUARTERS, SARATOGA Oct^r 18th 1777.

These May Certify that Col^o Webster with a Regiment of N. H. Volunteers have faithfully served in the Northern Army until this date and are discharged with honor.

By Gen^l Gates' order.

JACOB BAYLEY Brig^r Gen^l

Time was allowed for travel home, and the several companies were discharged, under date, about ten days later than the date of General Gates' release. The payrolls are found in State Papers, Vol. XV, pp. 373-386. Colonel Chase consolidated the seven companies under his immediate command in one roll, while Lieutenant-Colonel Webster made a staff roll and three company rolls.

The men were paid in January, 1778. The men in this service from Plymouth were in Captain Willoughby's company, which bears the following caption:—

Pay Roll of Captain John Willoughby's Company of Volunteers in Col. Chase's Regiment, Commanded by Brig^{dr} Gen^l Whipple which Company marched from Plymouth and the Towns Adjacent in Sep^r 1777 to the Assistance of our Northern Army under the command of Major General Gates.

John Willoughby Captain	James Hobart private
Gershom Burbank 1 st Lieut.	John Southmayd “
Cutting Favor 2 ^d Lieut	Nahum Powers “
Robert Forsaith Ensign	Samuel Morse “
Thomas Bartlett Sergeant	Josiah Brown Jr. “
Samuel Hazeltine “	David Nevins “
Carr Huse “	Isaac Ward “
Jonathan Cone “	Stephen Keyes “
Israel Brainerd Corporal	Samuel Ambrose “
Nason Cass “	John Kemp “
Joshua Fletcher “	Darius Willey “
Samuel Worthen “	Josiah Fellows “

The men from Plymouth in this service were Lieut.-Col. David Webster, Capt. John Willoughby, Joshua Fletcher, Capt. James Hobart, who served as a private, Nahum Powers, Samuel Morse, Josiah Brown, Jr., David Nevins, Jr., Isaac Ward, Stephen Keyes, Samuel Ambrose. Among the Chase papers is a memorandum, in his handwriting, referring to this service:—

A Return of Capt. John Willoughby's Company.

A list of the Officers and Gentle Volunteers and Soldiers under Col. David Webster. ——— Capt. John Willoughby

Gentlem. Volunteers

Capt. Gershom Burbank	Capt. James Hobart
Capt Cutting Favor	Lieut Thomas Bartlett
Lieut. Robert Forsaith	Ens. John Southmayd.
Lieut. Samuel Haseltine	

And under the caption of "Privates" is written the names of the remainder of the company. The paper is dated Saratoga, Oct. 10, 1777.

Shortly preceding these events Nathaniel Hull and Samuel Hull, brothers and soldiers from Plymouth, died in the service, the former September 6, and the latter September 8. In the campaign resulting in the surrender of Burgoyne the three continental regiments of New Hampshire were hotly engaged in every battle, and won the commendation of the generals in command and of subsequent historians of the campaign. Lieut. Amos Webster, a brother of Col. David Webster, who was commissioned in the continental service in November, 1776, escaped the dangers of Bemis Heights, but fell at Saratoga, October 7. He was a brave officer, and his loss was deeply regretted. He was the seventh man from Plymouth who died in the service.

In June of this year another demand was made upon New Hampshire. Rhode Island called for assistance, and orders were issued to Lieut.-Col. Joseph Senter of Moultonborough to command a battalion raised for the defence of that State. In this military organization Plymouth was not involved, but mention is made of the service of Colonel Senter from the fact that he removed to this town the following year and was an esteemed and honored citizen.

In the autumn of 1776 Benjamin Snow of Plymouth was appointed an ensign in the continental service. From the information discovered in the archives and records of the State, it is certain that he served only a few months. He resigned and came to his home in this town in January, 1777, and gave evidence of being disaffected with the government. Some of his utterances were disapproved by the patriots. Four letters written by him to Tories in the jail at Amherst were intercepted, and the sentiments uttered did not escape the vigilance of the committee of safety of this town. Removed from the excitement of the time, the letters at this date appear more foolish than treasonable. The committee of safety of Plymouth held a meeting for their discussion, and forwarded the following communication to the government at Exeter:—

In Committee of Safety of the Town of Plymouth,
February 26th, 1777.

Upon reading and considering a number of intercepted Letters signed by Benjamin Snow late an Ensign in the Continental Army, which Letters are directed to several persons in Amherst supposed to be Enimical to their country, & as reported some of them in Jale: Therefore agreed by said Committee that it appears by said Letters, that said Snow much favors the cause of the Enemies to our country, and is a dangerous person to the Community, and therefore ought to be taken care of; and as he, the said Snow is at this time in Salisbury thirty miles from hence towards Exeter, Therefore it is further agreed by said Committee, That Col. David Webster and Capt. Samuel Dearborn be desired forthwith to proceed to Salisbury or else where and use all means in their power, for the safty of this State, to apprehend and secure said Snow wherever he may be found and immediately proceed with him the said Snow to Exeter with the Letters herein referred to and deliver said Snow with said Letters to the Committee of Safty of this State for their Examination.

FRANCIS WORCESTER, Ch. Com.

N. B. Said Letters are four in number.

One, a fair sample, of the four letters is found in State Papers, Vol. VIII, p. 499, and two others, addressed to Col. John Holland, then confined in jail at Amherst, were as follows:—

PLYMOUTH, Jan^y 31 1777.

Honored and much respected sir.

According to your kind Invitation have taken this which is the first opportunity I have had to acquaint you of my safe Arrival at Plymouth. Since my Return Home Sir, I have endeavored to acquaint myself A little with the Foundation of the unhappy War between Great Brittain and the Colonies, for to my shame I confess I never considered so much of that Matter as I ought to before I engaged in the service. Should be extremely glad to ask your Advice in something that nearly concerns me but am afraid to till I have the satisfaction of seeing you lest my Letter should fall into somebody's hands who might take the Advantage of it. I hope before long sir, to hear you released from your Confinement and receive better Treatment from your Countrymen than you have in Times past, if I do not shall have the satisfaction of seeing you sometime in March, I trust, at Amherst—My compliments to Mr Tennecleif and Mr Man (if he is returned) if you please. hope when I come down to see

them and yourself as happy as you all appeared to be when I left you —
But, Sir I fear I shall be troublesome wherefor beg leave to subscribe
myself

Sir

Your most obedient
Most Devoted
and very humble servant
BENJ^A SNOW

PLYMOUTH Feby 4. 1777

Sir

After A Tedious Journey of five hundred Miles, have arrived at
length to my Mamma's Fire Side where we live as merry to appearance
as you please All my old acquaintance, seem glad to see me, and treat
me with a great Deal of Kindness, but still I feel discontented and
unhappy — I hope you enjoy yourself as well as you did when I left
you for I always shall think the Gentlemen confined in Goal and yourself
are the happiest persons living

I often think I should be very willing to suffer or rather enjoy the con-
finement of them Gentlemen would I be confined where there is such
Friendship and Harmony —

I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you the latter End of March if
nothing extraordinary turns up and talk upon an affair which I durst not
write of — till then I am with A Degree of Pleasure and uneasiness

Sir

Your most sincere
Friend and humble servant
BENJ^A— SNOW

Mr Holland be good enough to deliver the Letter inclosed to Miss
Nancy and you will oblige

Yours &c

No subsequent reference to this case appears in the records, and
it is probable that Lieut. Benjamin Snow was not apprehended.
He was a teacher a few years in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick,
returning to Plymouth, 1787. If his opinions in the heat of the
Revolution had irritated the patriots, it was now forgotten, and
he was a school teacher in this town and lived in peace with
his fellow-men. He died 1814. The Snow affair being ended,
Stephen Webster,¹ another member of the committee of safety of

¹ At the annual town meeting in March, 1777, a new committee of safety was chosen.
They were Samuel Emerson, Benjamin Goold, Ebenezer Blodgett, Francis Worcester,
Stephen Webster, John Willoughby, and David Webster.

Plymouth, discovers a den of Tories near Squam Lake, and promptly reports the fact to the State committee of safety.

To the Committee of Safety of the State of New Hampshire :

Gentlemen : The Committee of Safety for the Town of Plymouth being apprehensive that a Combination of Persons disaffected with & inimical to the interest of this & the United States of America were assembled at a certain place for purposes of the most dangerous consequence, — The place and some persons being suspected, — a secret spy was sent out in order to make discovery, who upon return Report : That at & near the house of Brion Sweeney's northerly of Great Squam Pond in the town of Newholderness (a place very remote from any other humane settlement) was discovered sundry persons who by their number & dress did not appear to be the proper Inhabitants of that place, (no man in that family being grown but Sweeney himself.) As we have for a long time suspected that place to be a Den of mischief, we are now more confirmed in our minds that there is secretly mischief a planning & carring on at & near sa'd Sweeney's, such as counterfeiting money, or some other plan to assist our Enemies and the like. Mr. Abel Webster, the bearer hereof, being one of the spies who will give further intelligence ; As we think it not safe for the publick & especially for the Inhabitants of these parts that the above affair should not be properly looked into, we thought it our duty to give you this information, hoping that you will not fail to give the same proper notice, & pass such order thereon as in the prosecution thereof will effectually secure the publick safety in general against the same, as well as ease the minds of the good people in these parts, in particular.

STEPHEN WEBSTER, Chairman.

In Committee of Safety

Plymouth, September 8th, 1777.

The second session of the legislature under the temporary constitution, elected for the term of one year, convened at Exeter on the third Wednesday of December, 1776. Grafton County was permitted to send six representatives, but only two were present. They were Daniel Brainerd, representing the Rumney class, and Joseph Whipple, representing the Lancaster class of towns. The legislature was in recess from January 18 to March 12. When the legislature reassembled in March, Francis Worcester of Plymouth appeared, and was admitted to a seat in the house of representatives. For reasons stated in the preceding chapter, the three

remaining districts were not represented in the house during the year ending in December, 1777, and Grafton County refusing to elect a councillor, that body consisted of eleven members.

Francis Worcester was an active and useful member of the house, serving on several important committees. In March he was appointed one of a joint committee of six, on the part of the house, to revise the apportionment of public taxes. The report of the committee was adopted. The proportion of Plymouth, expressed in Federal money, was \$4.79 on each \$1000. In June, when alarms were rife and other States were calling on New Hampshire for assistance, Mr. Worcester was named on a committee to suggest the number of men that could be raised, and to recommend a method of raising and equipping them. There is available evidence that his services, in a critical period of the war, were acceptable to his constituents and appreciated by his associates. He was re-elected for the year ending in December, 1778.

Elijah Lucas died Sept. 1, 1777, Josiah Willoughby died in October, 1777, and Silas Brown died Dec. 31, 1777. They were continental soldiers, serving on the quota of Plymouth in Colonel Scammell's regiment. During the year, including the re-enlistments, fifty-one Plymouth men have enlisted into the service. Of these seven have died on the field or in the hospital, thirty-four have been honorably discharged at the expiration of their terms of enlistment, and ten, who enlisted for three years or for the war, were in the continental service and, during a memorable winter, endured the extreme cold and exposure of Valley Forge.

XI. THE REVOLUTION, 1778-83.

ANOTHER year held out many assurances of amended prospects. The year 1777, with a gloomy dawn, had closed in the golden light of a brilliant sunset. The disheartened regiments, retreating before an advancing foe, had fought successful battles and had annihilated the army of Burgoyne. In this campaign, in which retreat was changed to victory, the Americans had taught the disciplined army of England that they were their equals in valor and their superiors in the stratagems of war. To a sentiment of awakened confidence was added the strength of cohesion and discipline. The army became invincible, and final victory was assured. The seat of war was removed to the south, and New Hampshire was relieved from frequent calls for troops for sudden emergencies. The tantalizing alarms which had allowed the militia little freedom from active service, and none from solicitude and expectancy when at home, were less frequent and less foreboding. Attending these happy changes in existing conditions, which encouraged hope to triumph over despondency, was the added joy occasioned by an alliance with France. A firmer faith pervaded the States, until many were persuaded that the war was substantially ended and independence assured. Yet in the midst of these cheerful omens other conditions were adding burdens in the place of those scarce removed. The constant depreciation of the currency demoralized trade and exacted new sacrifices in every home. The courts were practically closed, and credit could not be given because debts could not be collected, and the accumulating burden of public taxes was a constant factor in the trials of the Revolution. The continued military history of Plymouth will

be more a narrative of service on the frontiers than a record of enlistments for the continental service.

In the autumn of 1777 the organization of a regiment, to be raised in northern New Hampshire and Vermont, was ordered by the continental congress, and Colonel Bedel was appointed to the command. His commission, dated Nov. 10, 1777, was signed by Henry Laurens, president of congress. In early references to this regiment it is stated that it was raised for the invasion of Canada, and later it is called a regiment for the defence of the frontiers. A material revision of the military plans of the government would account for a corresponding change in the orders issued to this regiment. It is not within the province of this chapter to discuss how far the relations of Colonel Bedel with the Dresden party influenced the destiny and movements of his command. The rolls for April and May, 1777, are not at hand, but it is reasonably safe to presume that the regiment was in the service until March 31, 1779. It was stationed at Haverhill and Newbury, and was actively employed in guarding the frontier, in the construction of military roads, in scouting, and in the exercise of a general police inspection from Haverhill to Canada.

There were several Plymouth men in this regiment. David Webster was the lieutenant-colonel, and was in active service from June, 1778, to March 31, 1779. William Tarlton, at this date a resident of Piermont, was one of the captains of the regiment, and in his company were William Greenough, fifer, Stephen Keyes, Josiah Brown, and Samuel Morse. These men enlisted in February and were discharged March 31, 1778.

In Capt. Nehemiah Lovewell's company, from February 9 to March 31, 1778, were Daniel Clough Webster, David Nevins, Jr., and Nehemiah Snow. In July, 1778, four men from Plymouth enlisted into Captain Tarlton's company and served eight months. They were Nehemiah Snow, David Richardson, Benjamin Wells, and Nathaniel Webster.

Nahum Powers, who had been a resident of Plymouth, serving

on the quota of the town in 1775 and 1776, removed to Haverhill in 1777. He enlisted at Haverhill and served one year in Captain Barron's company of this regiment. Moor Russell, then a resident of Haverhill, served one year in the same company.

In February, 1778, the legislature voted to enlist a number of men, not exceeding seven hundred, to serve in the three continental regiments, and a special recruiting officer was appointed in each geographical regiment. Lieut.-Col. David Webster was designated to this duty in Colonel Hobart's regiment, and among the men raised by Colonel Webster were two Plymouth men, who enlisted for the term of two years. Richard Griffin enlisted in March and Stephen Keyes in April. They were assigned to Colonel Scammell's regiment.

During the year 1778 three Plymouth soldiers died in the service. David Nevins, Sr., a prisoner of war, died in February. Abel Webster, Jr., and Richard Griffin died in July.

The home record of the town, expressed in the minutes of the town meetings which are preserved, is a full and unqualified expression of sacrifice and devotion and of loyalty to the State government.

At a meeting convened in the meeting-house Feb. 2, 1778, the town voted to consent in full to the articles of perpetual union of the United States.

Voted that the representative for the time being of this district be and hereby is impowered to use his influence for a free and full representation of this State for the sole purpose of forming a Plan of Government for this State

Voted that the selectmen supply, as soon as may be, such families of the Continental soldiers as belong to this town agreeable to the resolve of the General Court of this State

At the annual meeting, March 10, 1778, Stephen Webster, Jacob Merrill, Elisha Bean, Abel Webster, David Webster, John Willoughby, and Samuel Emerson were chosen a committee of safety. In the warrant for this meeting were two articles, as follows:—

Art. 15 To see if the town will take under consideration the expediency of being united with the Inhabitants on the Grants both sides of Connecticut river in order to act with them either in uniting with New Hampshire or forming a distinct state as hereafter may be judged most expedient and choose one or more persons as committee men to meet with the committees from the several towns on the Grants east of the river to hold a conference with those west of the river with respect to being united

Art. 16. To see if this Town will recall our present representative in General Assembly from further acting in behalf of this Town in said Assembly till he may be otherwise Instructed by this Town.

In these articles the town was invited to enlist in the Vermont controversy. The action of the town was decisive, and in harmony with the consistent adherence to the Exeter government.

Voted to dismiss the fifteenth article in the warrant.

Voted to dismiss the sixteenth article in the warrant.

At the election of a council and house of representatives for the political year ending in December, 1779, Francis Worcester was elected a third time to represent the Plymouth class of towns. The other five classes of towns in Grafton County were not represented. The Dresden party, however, failed in preventing an election of a councillor. Col. Charles Johnston of Haverhill was elected, and served in that branch of the legislature during the year.

1779. This year there was a call for men to recruit the three continental regiments in the field. The quota of the eleventh regiment was fourteen, of which Plymouth was required to furnish three. They were Nehemiah Phillips, Winthrop Fox, and Nicholas Hall. At the same time David Nevins, Jr., enlisted at Plymouth, and by an agreement served on the quota of Alexandria. Fox was assigned to Colonel Reid's regiment, Phillips, Hall, and Nevins to Colonel Scammell's regiment.

At a town meeting assembled May 17, 1779, the town voted to advance the continental and State bounty to three men who would enlist to fill the quota of the town, and chose Joseph Senter, David

Hobart, and David Webster to procure the men. At an adjourned meeting the committee reported that they had enlisted Nehemiah Phillips and Nicholas Hall. Subsequently Winthrop Fox of Campton enlisted on the quota of Plymouth and received the promised bounty.

In August the town voted to release from taxes all the soldiers serving three-year enlistments, and also the widows of soldiers deceased. At the same meeting Joseph Senter was chosen a delegate to the Concord convention, which had been called "to regulate prices."

Col. David Hobart resigned June 22, 1779. The house of representatives voted "to receive the resignation of David Hobart, Esq: Col^o of the Eleventh Regiment of Militia of this State and that he receive the thanks of the Gen^l Assembly for his good services in that Station." It is well known that his resignation was caused by his preparations for removal from the State. The letter, like the man, is without ostentation, and is printed in full in another chapter. Lieut.-Col. David Webster succeeded to the command of the regiment, and performed the duties in an able and acceptable manner. It has been repeatedly stated that at the resignation of Colonel Hobart he was commissioned a colonel of the regiment. Colonel Webster was a lieutenant-colonel, commanding in the absence of a superior officer until Dec. 25, 1784, when he was commissioned colonel of the fourteenth regiment of militia, the number having been changed in a general reorganization.

Early in July there was a draft. Only one man was wanted at this time, and the lot fell on Peter Keyes, who served from July to October, 1779, in a squad commanded by Lieut. Jonah Chapman of Campton. They were scouts on the frontiers and maintained headquarters at Stratford.

Henry Snow, a continental soldier who had been transferred to Major Gibbs' Guards, died Oct. 25, 1779.

In midsummer of this year the State raised a regiment of three hundred men, commanded by Col. Hercules Mooney, for

the defence of Rhode Island. The legislature appointed the field and line officers June 23, 1779, and among these was Lieut. Josiah Brown of Plymouth. For this service Colonel Webster enlisted five men in the towns of his regiment. The only Plymouth man was Peter Stearns, who enlisted July 15. In completing the organization, the legislature being in recess, the committee of safety, August 14, appointed Dr. Peter Emerson of Plymouth surgeon. At this time Dr. Emerson was removing from this town, and an agent was employed to find him and notify him of his preferment. The regiment marched to Rhode Island and was discharged in January, 1780.

At the election of a legislature in the autumn of 1779, for the political year ending in December, 1780, Francis Worcester was elected councillor from Grafton County and Lieut.-Col. Joseph Senter, who had recently removed to this town, a representative from the Plymouth class of towns. At this time Samuel Livermore was chosen to represent Rumney, Holderness, Campton, and Thornton.

In the removal of Hon. John Hurd from the State, the State administration lost an able and judicious supporter, and the offices of chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas, county treasurer, and register of deeds became vacant, and the legislature, April 3, 1779, revised the entire list of county officials. Elisha Payne of Lebanon was promoted to chief justice, Bezaleel Woodward of Hanover and Samuel Emerson of Plymouth were reappointed associate justices. Enoch Page of Wentworth was appointed associate justice, in place of Elisha Payne, promoted. At the same time Col. David Webster was appointed sheriff, in place of Capt. Jotham Cummings, both of Plymouth. Moses Dow of Plymouth was reappointed register of probate, and immediately removed to Haverhill. The coroners were John House of Hanover and Alexander Craig of Rumney. Samuel Emerson was appointed a justice of the peace and quorum, and Francis Worcester a justice of the peace for the county, and Samuel Emerson was one of the commissioners named to qualify the officers appointed.

1780. At the beginning of the year there were twelve men from Plymouth in the continental regiments. James Barnes, Joseph Smith, John Phillips, Joseph Hobart, Benjamin Phillips, Nicholas Hall, and David Nevins, Jr., were in Captain McGregore's, formerly Captain Stone's, company of Colonel Scammell's regiment, and in other companies of the same regiment were Stephen Keyes and Nehemiah Phillips. Edward Evans was in Colonel Cilley's regiment and Winthrop Fox in Colonel Reid's. The remaining man was Paul Wells, who enlisted for three years in 1777. Upon one roll he is returned a deserter, and in 1779 he was arrested in New Hampshire, and the fact was duly reported to the State committee of safety:—

September 25 1779. Whereas it is represented to the Committee by Col. Webster of Plymouth that Lieut. Ray of Meredith has apprehended Paul Wells of Plymouth as a deserter in order to bring him to Exeter to put him to jail; the committee having examined sundry papers with respect to said Wells whereby it appears that he is unable to join the army and do duty there, the committee are of opinion that the said Paul Wells remain at home until further order of the committee or General Court and that the said Wells is discharged from his obligation to appear before this Committee next Tuesday.

From the information available it is made certain that in the movements of his regiment he was left at some point on account of sickness, and that without any attempt at concealment, and probably without leave, he came to his home in Plymouth, and under the immediate observation of Colonel Webster, who would have sent him to the army if such proceeding was proper. When he was arrested by an outsider Colonel Webster appeared at Exeter as his friend and advocate, securing a favorable decision of the committee of safety. Paul Wells was a good citizen and not a man to evade a duty in peace or desert his comrades in war. At the expiration of his term of service Stephen Keyes was discharged May 30, 1780, and Benjamin Phillips died in the army Oct. 12, 1780. In the autumn of this year Colonel Cilley retired from the service, and the continentals were reorganized in two regiments, commanded by Colonels Reid and Scammell.

June 16, 1780, the legislature ordered that six hundred men be immediately raised to recruit the three continental regiments. By the terms of the act these men were to serve until the first day of January, 1781, and were styled "Six Months Recruits." Col. David Webster was ordered to raise twelve men in the towns of his regiment. The quota of Plymouth was two, and Peter Keyes and Samuel Dustin enlisted or were drafted to satisfy the demand. A few days later there was a call for nine hundred and forty-five men to serve three months. These recruits were organized in two regiments, commanded by Cols. Thomas Bartlett of Nottingham and Moses Nichols of Amherst. They served in Washington's army at West Point and were discharged in October. The quota of Colonel Webster's regiment was one lieutenant and nineteen men.

In the military plans and orders of the year the frontiers were not neglected. Maj. Benjamin Whitecomb, who had been a lieutenant, captain, and major under Colonel Bedel, was given an independent command in 1779, and was stationed on the Connecticut River. In April the legislature ordered that sixty men be raised for the defence of the frontiers. The committee of safety directed Colonel Chase to raise one captain and twenty-four men, Colonel Webster one lieutenant and eighteen men, Colonel Morey one ensign and seventeen men. This company was to serve six months. The officers were Capt. Samuel Paine of Lebanon, Lieut. Gale Cole of Cornish, and Ensign David Bradley. Only twenty-nine men, exclusive of officers, were raised.

In June the legislature gave orders for raising two companies of sixty men each, to join the corps of rangers commanded by Major Whitcomb. At the same time it was ordered that Ephraim Stone of Westmoreland be the captain of one company, Jonathan Robbins of Plymouth lieutenant, and Ebenezer Odell of Amherst ensign. Mr. Robbins declined, and the company went into the service with a captain and ensign. Of the other company Samuel Runnals of Durham was captain, Jacob Elliot of Chester lieutenant, and Nathan Barlow of Stratford ensign. For this service

the quota of Colonel Webster's regiment was four, of whom Daniel C. Webster was of Plymouth.

The burning of Royalton, Vt., in October, 1780, was a lamentable event. It was the sad realization of a reasonable fear that pervaded the frontiers throughout the war. With added years the events of the incursion have become distorted and the facts enlarged to our vision by the uncertain lens of tradition. The marauders were Indians accompanied, not commanded, by one lieutenant, one Frenchman, and one Tory. It was not an organized military body. The object of their search was some defenceless settlement, and they fell upon Royalton, burning over twenty houses and nearly as many barns, and slaughtered cattle, sheep, and swine. They murdered two men and carried away about twenty-five captives. The attack was sudden and unexpected, and the inhabitants, unwarned of danger, failed to combine for resistance. It is stated that the object of this invasion was the burning of Newbury or Hanover, and other writers tell us the expedition was fitted out for the capture of General Bayley or Major Whitecomb. The major at this time was the commander of several companies of rangers, well armed and all masters of border warfare. If they inquired where Major Whitecomb was stationed they had another object in view. To them the conditions in Royalton were ideal, and there in flame and carnage they declared the true object and aim of the incursion.

The news of the incursion and carnage, borne on the wings of alarm, was swiftly communicated from town to town, and many companies of militia in this State were marching to the relief of their brethren in Vermont. The rolls of the companies in service at this time are not preserved, but the records of many towns testify to a remarkable and spontaneous muster of men. Never before at any one time were so many men under arms in New Hampshire. Very few of the companies reached the scene of carnage. They were turned back by messengers who gave assurance that the enemy had escaped by retreat. A company from Plymouth marched for Haverhill and Royalton. In what manner

the intelligence was brought to Plymouth, the names of the men in the Plymouth company, and the story of the march may be transcribed in some sleeping chronicle not now available.

At the election of a legislature for the political year ending in December, 1781, Francis Worcester was elected to the council from Grafton County. Four of the six districts or classes of the county elected representatives. They were Enoch Noyes of Cocker-mouth, representing the Plymouth class, Moses Baker of Campton the Campton class, Moses Dow of Haverhill the Haverhill class, Jeremiah Eames of Northumberland the Lancaster class. The Hanover class and the Orford class were not represented.

1781. Although a treaty of peace was not promulgated and the army disbanded until 1783, the war was practically ended with the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, Oct. 19, 1781. The remainder of the story of Plymouth in the Revolution relates mainly to the defence of the frontiers and bounties raised for the continental soldiers and timely provision for the support of their families.

The call, Jan. 12, 1781, for 1534 men for the continental army, including those in the service, was subsequently modified, and, omitting reference to the companies raised for the defence of the seacoast and Conway, there were two calls for men during the year. In April the regiment of Col. David Webster and the four regiments on the Connecticut River were required to raise two companies for service in Coos, and in July the remaining regiments were required to raise 650 men to re-enforce the army whenever called for by General Washington.

In January of this year Col. Jonathan Chase of Cornish preferred a petition (State Papers, Vol. XI, p. 435) describing the defenceless state of the frontiers and praying for relief and assistance. In answer to this petition the general court instructed Colonel Chase and Colonel Morey, whose regiments contained several disaffected towns, to raise a company of men for their own protection, to be paid by the State as soon as those and other disaffected towns pay their State tax, "After which," continues

the vote, "the State will do every thing in its power for their protection." In a continued prosecution of this policy, in the vote to raise two companies for the frontiers, it was provided that the men should be paid by the towns, and the sums so paid should be deducted from the State tax.

Plymouth remained loyal to the State government, and the censure expressed in this vote was an incident of location within a county to a considerable extent enlisted in the Dresden conventions and the many phases of the Vermont controversy. The first of the two companies was raised in July, and remained in service on the frontiers four months. It was commanded by Lieut. Peter Stearns of Plymouth. The roll of the company is not preserved, but from the return of Colonel Webster the men from Plymouth were Jonathan Robbins, Jr., and John Brown. It was in reference to this company that Meshech Ware, the unwearied chairman of the committee of safety, wrote to Col. Charles Johnston of Haverhill: —

State of } In Com^{tee} of Safety.
New Hampshire } Exeter Augst 10 1781

Sir The com^{tee} have received information that Colo David Webster has sent on to your care the men he was directed to raise in his Regiment for the defence of the frontiers — if this be the case, you are hereby requested to send them forward immediately to the Upper Coos there to be placed under the direction of Joseph Whipple Esq. who will on their arrival see that provision is made for their support — which measure appears to be necessary as some depredations have lately been committed by the Enemy in that quarter.

M. WEARE, Presd^t

Col^o Charles Johnston.

This may Certify that agreeable to orders Rec'd. from the Authority of the State to Raise one Lieutenant & twelve Privates for the defence of the Frontiers the present year, I have Raised one Lieutenant, namely Peter Stearns of Plymouth & nine Privates namely Jonathan Robbins Jr and John Brown for Plymouth; John Clifford Jr. & Jason Cross for Rumney; John Fellows and Daniel Heath for New Chester; William Petty for Alexandria; Winthrop Bagley for Campton; and Jared Willey for Thornton. — there remains three privates deficient, viz: New Hol-

derness Capt. Shepard's Quota, two and Cockermouth, Capt. Kendall's Quota one, who did not comply with my orders.

The officer and men were raised & ready to march the fifteenth day of June last.

Plymouth 14th Nov. 1781

DAVID WEBSTER, Col^o

The company was dismissed in November.

HAVERHILL Nov. 3, 1781

To Lieut. Stearns commanding a party of the New Hampshire Militia.

Sir—you will on the 12 day of this Instant dismiss your men, make up your Roll and Apply to the State of New Hampshire for your pay. — I give you my thanks for your Services.

CHARLES JOHNSTON Lt. Col^o

The other company, raised for the same service and commanded by Capt. Jacob Smith of Sandwich, did not contain any men from this town.

Many of the veterans in the continental service who had enlisted for three years re-enlisted at the expiration of the term of service, and some of them were assigned to the quota of another town. The committee of safety adjusted over one hundred contested cases arising from these and other dual claims of the towns. It was decided that Winthrop Fox, claimed by Campton, and Nicholas Hall, claimed by Plaistow, should remain on the quota of Plymouth. Joseph Smith, who had been serving on the quota of this town, was claimed by Boscawen, Plaistow, and Wentworth. The town could not withstand the combination, and this soldier was awarded to Plaistow. David Nevins, Jr., a resident of Plymouth, was hired by Alexandria. Both towns claimed him, but he was counted on the quota of Alexandria. Starling Heath, subsequently a resident of this town, was claimed by Atkinson and New Chester. He was awarded to New Chester. After these adjustments of the quota there were seven Plymouth men in the continental service. They were James Barnes, Joseph Hobart, John Phillips, Nehemiah Phillips, Edward Evans, Winthrop Fox, and Nicholas Hall.

The veterans of the New Hampshire regiments, worn by service and decimated by death, were consolidated into one battalion, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Henry Dearborn. It is stated in Kidder's History of the First Regiment that Edward Evans was discharged in December, 1781. He was maimed by a gunshot wound in the ankle, and came to his home in Plymouth a short time before the final discharge of his comrades in June, 1783. He was pensioned by the State, and subsequently by the United States. James Barnes died in the service, probably in 1783, and only a few weeks before the dismissal of the army. The town records make known, "James Barnes died in the army," but no date is annexed. He was living in 1782. David Nevins, Jr., then a sergeant, was discharged in June, 1783, and died near Albany while returning to his home in Plymouth.

The call issued in June, 1782, for two companies to serve at Coos, was the last demand for men in which Plymouth was involved. The quota of Colonel Webster's regiment was four. One of these companies was commanded by Capt. Ebenezer Webster of Salisbury, to which was joined several men serving under Sergt. James Ladd, who was promoted to lieutenant. The other company, commanded by Capt. Jonathan Smith of Surry, was not filled, but served with fifteen men until dismissed Nov. 5, 1782. On the rolls of these companies the residence is stated. The only man from Plymouth was David Johnson, and the only remaining man from Colonel Webster's regiment was Zebulon Gilman of Cocker-mouth. Amos Blood on the roll is credited to Haverhill, but probably was a resident of this town.

At the annual meeting in March, 1781, a committee of safety was not chosen. Several good reasons for a failure to elect could be suggested, but none of them are supported by the records of the town. In June following an expressive petition was filed with the selectmen: —

To the Selectmen of the town of Plymouth, Gentlemen :

We, the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Plymouth, Do conceive it highly Necessary under the present Circumstances of the Town

and the critical Situation of public affairs in these parts, that there be a Committee of Safety chosen to take a particular care and inspect all matters wherein there may be danger of an injury to this Town or to the public Cause of the United States in General. We therefore desire you to call a Town Meeting as soon as may be to see if the Town chuse a Committee as aforesaid, and you will oblige your Humble Petitioners.

Plymouth June, 12, 1781

Onesiporous Marsh	Samuel Stearns	Joseph Senter
Abel Webster	James Brown	Abijah Wright
Winthrop Wells	Josiah Brown	Daniel C. Webster
William George	Jona. Robbins	Ebenezer Blodgett.
Jacob Smith	Jotham Cummings	

A town meeting was called immediately and held July 4, 1781. Colonel Senter was chosen moderator and a committee was elected. They were Col. Joseph Senter, Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Lieut. Jonathan Robbins, Lieut. James Brown, and Abel Webster.

During the Revolution the scarcity of gold and silver and the uncertain and fading value of paper money invited the introduction of many innovations in methods of business and in the conduct of public affairs. In the progress of this embarrassment the business of the country in a great measure was limited to barter trade and an exchange of commodities. The products of the farm and the loom were a circulating medium, and a quantity of corn in the liquidation of debt would pass through many hands. The State, as conscious as individuals of the scarcity of money, made demands upon the towns for beef and rum for the use of the army. Following a demand for 10,000 gallons of rum and 120,000 pounds of beef, the act of Jan. 27, 1781, called for the collection of 1,400,000 pounds of beef, which was apportioned among the several towns. The apportionment of Plymouth was 7053 pounds. Many of the towns raised the tax in money and authorized the selectmen to purchase and deliver to the collector the required amount. In this town the tax was paid in beef. The selectmen assessed the tax, expressed in pounds of beef, upon the polls and estates. The taxpayers formed classes. Suppose the tax of A

was 100 pounds and he had a beeve to deliver weighing 500 pounds, A would admit to his class C and D, whose aggregate tax was 400 pounds, who paid to A their just proportion according to the assessment. In this manner the number of classes equalled the number of beeves turned over to the State in payment of the tax.

The depreciation of the paper money in circulation, and the uncertain value of a promise to pay in current funds, was a factor in town as well as State affairs. The town of Plymouth, March 13, 1781, voted "to give the towns quota of Continental soldiers, now in the field and engaged during the war, each of them, one yoke of good six feet oxen about six years old, or the value thereof, in three years from this time or sooner if discharged."

March 12, 1782, voted, "To give the town's quota of Continental soldiers now engaged during the war fifty Spanish milled dollars, to each of them, or the value thereof in addition to what has been heretofore voted."

April 4, 1782, "Voted to raise forty two pounds towards paying the towns quota of Continental soldiers that are engaged during the war entitled to the benefit of the town's vote of March 13, 1781, to give each of them one yoke of good six feet oxen; that the same be assessed upon the polls and estates in this town in silver money to be paid in silver money or specific articles of produce, such as corn grain or peas at the market price; and that the same be taken out of the said oxen to such of said soldiers that receive the said pay and receipts for the same."

It is a feature of the history of Grafton County that the courts were closed from 1776 to 1782. The causes for the suspension are attributable to the disturbances incident to the Revolution and to a division of sentiment during the Vermont controversy. The Exeter government was conservative and tolerant, and the good conduct of the people in both sections of the county was a remarkable exhibition of self-government. The collapse of the union of the western towns with Vermont presented an opportunity for a peaceful reorganization of a county administration, which the

Exeter government accepted. First, in the nature of a proclamation, it was voted, March 19, 1782, that the courts of Grafton County should be immediately opened and that a term of the Superior Court of Judicature should be held at Haverhill in October of that year. Eight days later the legislature appointed Samuel Emerson of Plymouth chief justice and Enoch Page of Wentworth, James Woodward and Ezekiel Ladd of Haverhill associate justices of the Court of Common Pleas. David Webster, sheriff, and Samuel Emerson, register of deeds, were continued in office, and soon after Samuel Emerson appears as the county treasurer. A short time previous to this, after the legislature had declared a vacancy in the command of the twelfth regiment and in the office of Judge of Probate, Charles Johnston was appointed to succeed Israel Morey in both positions. This organization, by successive appointments and elections, has been continued to the present time.

To complete the record of the representation of Plymouth in the house of representatives during the term of the temporary constitution, three legislatures are remaining. New London was joined to the Plymouth class of towns from 1780 to 1782. In the legislature ending in December, 1782, Francis Worcester was the councillor from Grafton County, and Joseph Senter of Plymouth represented the towns of Plymouth, New Chester, Cockermouth, Alexandria, and New London. The next election was held at Plymouth Dec. 3, 1782. Under a new arrangement of class, Plymouth and Rumney were classed. In the legislature ending in December, 1783, Francis Worcester was the councillor and Edward Everett of Rumney the representative. At the short session convened in December, 1783, and dissolved by the promulgation of the constitution in June, 1784, Moses Dow of Haverhill was the councillor and Francis Worcester was the representative.

A record of the election Dec. 3, 1782, attended by the voters of Plymouth and Rumney, is preserved. Daniel Brainerd of Rumney was the moderator of the meeting. Francis Worcester was elected a representative, and the meeting was adjourned until

the twelfth instant. At the adjourned meeting it was known that Francis Worcester had been elected councillor. The meeting then chose Benjamin Gould of Plymouth, who declined, and on a second ballot Edward Everett of Rumney was elected.

In another connection mention has been made of the service in the Revolution of Moor Russell, Capt. Adna Penniman, Joshua Thornton, Solomon Bayley, Starling Heath, Col. Joseph Senter, and Thomas Nutting, who removed to this town after their discharge from the army.

George Shepard of Canterbury, born 1741, was taxed in Plymouth 1776, and was hired "to do scouting," but in this service probably he was not an enlisted soldier. He removed from this town, and subsequently served in Colonel Scammell's regiment. He was claimed on the quotas of Canterbury and Boscawen, and was finally credited to Boscawen.

William Nealey of Exeter, a continental soldier in Colonel Cilley's regiment, was severely wounded in the face in December, 1777. He was pensioned by the State and subsequently lived a few years in Plymouth. He was not taxed.

Currier Barnard came to Plymouth, 1784. While a resident of Amesbury, Mass., he enlisted, April 3, 1778, in Capt. Samuel Huse's company of Col. Jacob Gerrish's regiment, and was discharged July 4, 1778. He also served two other enlistments.

Ephraim Chamberlain, who removed to Plymouth, 1824, was a soldier in Capt. Edward Everett's company, Colonel Bedel's regiment, 1776, and in Capt. Chase Taylor's company, Colonel Stickney's regiment, at Bennington, 1777.

Jonathan Jewett lived in this town a few years, beginning 1781. He served in the Hollis company, commanded by Capt. Daniel Emerson, at the Ticonderoga alarm in 1777, and in Captain Worthen's company in the Rhode Island campaign of 1778.

Stephen Wells lived in Northumberland four years, removing to Plymouth in 1777. In addition to the service named in Volume II, it is probable that he served upon the frontiers in one or more of the companies stationed in the vicinity of Northumberland.

Winthrop Wells came to Plymouth in 1765. At that date he was thirty-nine years of age and was styled a lieutenant. He was one of the first board of selectmen and was a prominent and useful citizen. There appears an article in a warrant for a town meeting held in Plymouth May 12, 1778, to choose a surveyor of highways in room of "Lieut. Winthrop Wells who has enlisted in public service." The town chose Zachariah Parker "in the Rome of Leuit. Winthrop Wells who has gon into Public Service."

The Apportionment of 1784.—At the close of the Revolution, and in connection with the adoption of a permanent State constitution, the legislature, in February, 1783, instructed the selectmen of the several towns of the State to make a return of property subject to taxation and of the number of polls eighteen to seventy-five years of age. Upon the basis of these returns an apportionment of the State tax was made in June, 1784. The proportion of Plymouth was £4 19s. 4d. on every £1000. Males over seventy years of age were not exempt from a poll tax until the act of Feb. 7, 1789. The selectmen of Plymouth, as represented in the return, reported the number of polls assessed in April, 1783.

PLYMOUTH, 12th December 1783.

This may Certify that there is Ninety two Male polls upwards of Twenty one years of Age, paying for themselves a poll Tax in the Town of Plymouth. There is also over and above said Ninety two, five Soldiers returned home from the Continental service since the first day of April last, belonging to said Plymouth and upwards of Twenty one years of Age on said first day of April last.

SAMUEL EMERSON
WASHINGTON GEORGE } Selectmen

The names of the five soldiers who returned to Plymouth were Edward Evans, John Phillips, Nehemiah Phillips, Joseph Hobart, and Nicholas Hall.

The ninety-two males enumerated were:—

Richard Bayley	Ebenezer Blodgett	Thomas Boynton
Stephen Bartlett	James Blodgett	Josiah Brown
Elisha Bean	James Blodgett Jr.	Josiah Brown Jr.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and techniques used to collect and analyze data. It includes a detailed description of the experimental procedures and the statistical analysis performed.

3. The third part of the document presents the results of the study. It includes a series of tables and graphs that illustrate the findings of the research. The data shows a clear trend of increasing activity over time.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the implications of the findings. It suggests that the results have significant implications for the field of study and may lead to further research in this area.

5. The fifth part of the document provides a conclusion and summarizes the key points of the study. It reiterates the importance of accurate record-keeping and the need for ongoing research in this field.

Table 1: Summary of Data Collection Methods	
Method	Description
Interviews	Conducted with 10 participants to gather qualitative data on their experiences.
Surveys	Distributed to a larger group of participants to collect quantitative data on their behaviors.
Observations	Used to monitor and record activities in real-time during the study.
Diaries	Participants were asked to maintain diaries to track their daily activities and thoughts.

Table 2: Statistical Analysis Results	
Variable	Mean
Activity Level	15.2
Time Spent	2.5 hours
Frequency	3 times per week

Table 3: Implications for Future Research	
Area	Recommendation
Data Collection	Consider using more advanced sensors for more precise data collection.
Analysis	Explore more complex statistical models to better understand the data.
Application	Investigate the practical applications of the findings in real-world settings.

Daniel Chamberlain	Jonas Keyes	Joel Taylor
Jotham Cummings	Abiel Lovejoy	Joshua Thornton
Samuel Drew	Onesipherus Marsh	Moses Thurlow
Michael Dearborn	Samuel Marsh	Nathan Ward
Peter Dearborn	Jacob Marsh	Enoch Ward
Samuel Dearborn	Jacob Merrill	Isaac Ward
David Durkee	Thomas McCluer	Benjamin Ward
Samuel Emerson	Samuel Morse	Stephen Webster
Henry Erving	John Nevins	Stephen Webster Jr.
Joshua Fletcher	Jonathan Penniman	David Webster
Moses French	John Porter	Daniel C. Webster
Benjamin Goold	Zachariah Parker	Abel Webster
William George	Amos Phillips	Nathaniel Webster
William Gibson	Joseph Reed	Moses Webster
William Greenough	Zebadiah Richardson	Winthrop Wells
James Harvill	Jonathan Robbins	Benjamin Wells
Thomas Harriman	John Rogers	Paul Wells
James Hobart	James Ryan	Stephen Wells
Samuel Heath	Joseph Senter	John Willoughby
Joshua Heath	David Senter	John Willoughby Jr.
Daniel Heath	Edward Senter	Francis Worcester
George Hull	Samuel Stearns	Francis Worcester Jr.
Moses Hull	Samuel Stearns Jr	Abijah Wright
Timothy Ingalls	Peter Stearns	Daniel Wheeler
Jonathan Jewett	Edward Smith	John Webber
Ephraim Keyes	Jacob Smith	Levi Wyman
Ephraim Keyes Jr.	Nehemiah Snow	Nathaniel Wyman
Peter Keyes	John Siphros	

XII. THE VETERANS' STORY.

TO the courtesy of Frank D. Currier, the representative in congress of the second New Hampshire district, this chapter is accredited. These copies of the original pension papers, in the language of the applicant, are drawn from the files at Washington. The copies, under the direction of Charles C. Wright, were made by Mrs. Glennie Anne Bartlett Adams. To each of the persons named the readers of this chapter are indebted. The statements of the veterans of the Revolution, filed with their applications for pension, are printed without comment, and they will present the better and the more eloquent chapter in the story of Plymouth in the memorable struggle for independence.

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire }
 County of Grafton } ss.

On this fourth day of September A. D. 1832, personally appeared before the Judge of the Probate Court for said county now sitting, William Greenough, a resident of Rumney in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, aged eighty one years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7th, 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year A. D. 1775 with Lieut. Jotham Cummings and served under the following named officers. He enlisted the latter part of June or the first of July 1775 in the town of Plymouth in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, in the company of militia, commanded by Capt. James Osgood in which Jotham Cummings was 2nd Lieut. and Mathew Thornton was 1st. Lieut., for six months; in Col. Bedel's regiment and under the command of Gen. Montgomery and served as a drummer. He marched from Plymouth aforesaid to Haverhill, N. H., thence to St. Johns, Canada, and was in the siege and battle of St. Johns and at the taking of the same — from thence to

Longgale & from thence to the St. Lawrence River to a place called Leveltree, on an expedition to stop some British vessels which had started from Montreal for Quebec and succeeded in the expedition, the vessels capitulated and from the last mentioned place he was discharged, to the best of his knowledge the last of December same year, having served on the last expedition after the expiration of his term of enlistment which he did at the special request of his officers, for which service he was promised a share in the booty should the expedition be successful but never did receive any of the booty. On his enlistment he received one dollar bounty. Early in the spring of 1776, he again made his arrangements for entering the service of his country by letting out his farm &c., and enlisted the second time for one year under Capt. William Tarlton under the command of Gen. Bayley, to guard the frontier. He marched from Plymouth aforesaid, to the best of his recollection, in May 1776, was stationed at Haverhill, N. H. Newbury, Vt. and the vicinity around. In this campaign nothing worthy of very special notice occurred. He has no documentary evidence; he never received a written discharge but was discharged before officers in person and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services except Thomas Ramsey of Rumney in the county & State aforesaid, who can testify to his six months' services. He further states that he served his country faithfully, is now an old, infirm and decrepit man, in very low circumstances and has been obliged to appeal for, and is now receiving his support from the town of Rumney aforesaid. He further states that in February 1777, he enlisted into the company commanded by Capt. William Tarlton, in which Luther Richardson and Jesse Young served as Lieutenants in Col. Bedel's regiment New Hampshire militia and served in the vicinity of Haverhill and Newbury aforesaid until he was discharged the last of March or first of April following, being about one and one half month. He now lives in Rumney aforesaid and has most of the time since the Revolutionary war. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Witness Edward Webber.

WILLIAM GREENOUGH.

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier, and served as he states.

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

I, Moses Dow Clerk of the Court of Probate aforesaid do hereby certify, that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said

Court, in the matter of the application of William Greenough for a pension. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, this fourth day of September A. D. 1832.

MOSES DOW.

An amendment to the within declaration.

State of New Hampshire } ss. On this 2nd day of April A. D. 1833.
County of Grafton } personally appeared before the judge of the Court of Probate for said county now sitting, William Greenough a resident of Rumney in the county of Grafton & State of New Hampshire, aged 81 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration as an amendment to the within declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That under his first enlistment he served a period not less than six months; that under his second enlistment he served out his full term of twelve months commencing sometime in May 1776 and was discharged in May 1777; that under his third enlistment he served a period not less than one month. He was born in Newburyport, Mass. in the year A. D. 1751. His birth, as he has been told by his mother, is recorded on the town records in said Newburyport. He refers to the Rev. Noah Nichols, Rev. Edward Webber, Hon. Samuel Burns, Samuel Burnham, Esq., and Capt. Elisha Smart, all of said Rumney, to all of whom he is well known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.¹

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

WILLIAM GREENOUGH.

State of Vermont }
Rutland County, ss. } On this 25th day of July A. D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Probate Court of Rutland Dis't, now sitting, Peter Keyes a resident of the County of Rutland and State of Vermont, aged 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named

¹ Affidavits of Rev. Noah Nichols and Samuel Burnham, both of Rumney, N. H., are attached to the above amendment. They state their belief in his veracity and that he was a soldier in the Revolution. The testimony of Thomas Ramsey, who served in the same company and at the same time as William Greenough in his first enlistment, affirms what is given in the first declaration but adds nothing to it. Certificate of Pension, issued the 25th of April, 1833, and sent to Edward Webber, Rumney, N. H. Inscribed on the roll of New Hampshire at the rate of sixty-five dollars and thirty-three cents per annum.

officers, and served as herein stated. In 1779 he lived in Plymouth, New Hampshire and in the summer of that year, he was drafted for three months and marched to the Upper Cohoes, to protect the inhabitants against the Indians and served under Lieut. Chapman who was the officer in command—served most of the time in scouting—the place of rendezvous was Stratford. At the end of three months returned home but received no written discharge. In 1780, in June, he enlisted for six months in Col. Courtland's Regt. of Light Infantry, New York, Capt. Monroe, Lieut. Carter, Ensign Stark he thinks—was passed, mustered at Amherst—marched to West Point and was there when Arnold sold the place—when he went to Kingsferry and crossed again to New Jersey, marched he should think about 40 miles in that State, returned to a place called Soldier's Fortune opposite West Point where he was discharged but has lost his discharge. He was about 3 miles off when Maj. André was hung. He cannot distinguish other regiments with which he served. He knew Generals Washington, Lafayette, Poor (who died while he was in service) and many others whose names he has forgotten. He has no documentary evidence but has the affidavit of Robert Forres to prove part of his services. He was born at Hollis, New Hampshire, the 26 Dec. 1761, but has no record of his age—it was recorded in his father's bible. Since the Revolution, he lived in Plymouth aforesaid until about 35 years ago when he moved to Strafford, Vermont, where he lived until 14 years ago he moved to Pittsfield where he has since lived. He is known to the Rev. John Suddard and Deacon Fairbanks, who are present, and to most of the people of Pittsfield. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.¹

PETER KEYES.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

R. C. ROYCE, Reg'r.

PITTSFIELD, VT. RUTLAND COUNTY, Feb. 5, 1835.

To the Hon. J. L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions.

Sir—I understand that in consequence of the frauds committed upon the Government by a certain agent in this county, the further payment of pensions in this county are suspended and that it is necessary to forward to your office a statement of services &c. I therefore state that I belonged to the State of New Hampshire when in service and that I was drafted three months and marched up Connecticut River to the uppermost

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued 31st of August, 1833, and sent to R. Temple, Rutland. Inscribed on the roll of Vermont at the rate of thirty dollars per annum.

settlement on the river as an Indian spy and served there three months — this I think was in 1779. I then enlisted for six months to fill up the three years' men's places, under Capt. Munroe in Col. Courtland's regiment. I then marched to West Point and stayed there about a fortnight and then went down the river to Kingsferry and served out my time in that vicinity and was discharged at a place called Soldiers' Fortune. I served in the whole nine months but was in no battle. My six months service was in the Light Infantry under M. D. Lafayette — while at (I think Elizabethtown) Gen. Poor died and as I was on sentry I saw his corpse carried by to be buried and his horse followed the corpse to the grave without a rider or leader. I resided in this town when I first made application for a pension, and the testimony was taken before R. Pierpont, Clerk of the County Court, my pension was thirty dollars per annum and I drew up to the 4th of Sept. 1834.

Your obt. Servant.

PETER KEYES.

Application for a transfer.

County of Alleghany ss.

On this 14th day of March 1836, before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for the said County of Alleghany, personally appeared Peter Keyes, who, on his oath, declares that he is the same person who formerly belonged to the company commanded by Captain Monroe in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Courtland in the service of the United States; that his name was placed on the pension roll of the State of Vermont from whence he has lately removed; that he now resides in the State of New York where he intends to remain, and wishes his pension to be there payable, in future. The following are his reasons for removing from Vermont to New York, viz: — that he has a son living in the town of Eagle in the State of New York and that he removed for the purpose of residing with him.¹

Sworn and subscribed to before me }
the day and year aforesaid. }

PETER KEYES.

LUTHER C. PECK, Justice &c.

State of New Hampshire.

Grafton ss.

On this twentieth day of November 1819, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for said County personally appears Ezekiel Keyes aged sixty years, resident in Plymouth in the said State, who being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the pro-

¹ His name was transferred to the Albany roll.

vision made by the late act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war": That he the said Ezekiel Keyes enlisted on 4th day of March 1776 in the State of New Hampshire in the company commanded by Captain Edward Everett of the regiment commanded by Col. Timothy Bedel; that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States until the month of December 1776, when he was discharged from service in Mount Independence, State of Vermont, that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

Sworn to and declared before me, the day and year aforesaid.¹

EZRA BARTLETT.

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire } ss. Joseph Hobart of Middlesex in the
County of Washington } county of Washington and State of
Vermont, being duly sworn, doth declare, depose and say that, on or about the first day of January A. D. 1776, he was duly enlisted into the service of the United States, for the term of one year and that he belonged to Capt. Everett's company and Col. Bedel's regiment, of the New Hampshire line and that he served therein, against the common enemy for the term one year, as a private and until honorably discharged at Saratoga in January 1777. In January 1777, he again enlisted in service for the term of during the war and belonged to Capt. Stone's company and Col. Alexander Scammel's regiment of the New Hampshire line, and served therein against the common enemy, until about the 6th day of June 1783 when he was honorably discharged by Gen. Washington at Newburgh, New York. His discharge has been lost many years. He further deposes and says, that he is now, and ever since has been a citizen of the United States; that he, by reason of his reduced circumstances, in life, is in need of assistance from his country for support.

JOSEPH HOBART.

Declared, sworn, and subscribed, by the above named Joseph Hobart before me at Montpelier in the county aforesaid, this second day of April A. D. 1818.²

STEPHEN PITKINS, Judge of County Court.

Affidavits by James Hobart and James Hobart, Jr., both of Berlin, Vt.

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 19th of May, 1820, and sent to Ezra Bartlett, Esq., Haverhill, N. H.

² Certificate of Pension, issued the 24th of October, 1818, and sent to George Rich, Esq., Montpelier, Vt. Inscribed on the roll of Vermont at the rate of

Declaration.

I, John Phillips, now of Danville, State of Vermont, County of Caledonia, late of New York, aged 58 years, testify, declare and say that some time in the month of march in the year 1777 I enlisted into the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War for three years but was returned during the war. I enlisted under Capt. Benjamin Stone and joined the third New Hampshire regiment commanded by Col. Scammel and if I mistake not in the year 1778 Col. Scammel was taken for Aide to General Washington and the regiment was commanded by Col. Dearborn. I joined the army at Ticonderoga and was in the retreat before Burgoyne until General Gates met us and in the battle of 19th of September I was wounded in the body with a musket ball and was in the hospital Albany and (Schenectady?) until I recovered and joined the army at Valley Forge and in the year of 1778 at the White Plains in a skirmish I received a wound in my right knee with a bayonet and in the year 1782 I was wounded in my head and shoulder by a blow with the breech of a gun and the butt of a bayonet near Pines Bridge in the State of New York, when and where I was taken prisoner and confined about four months in the City of New York and then exchanged and joined the army and continued until the end of the war. And further state I am in reduced circumstances and need the assistance of my Country for support and that I am a citizen of the United States. I further state that I am an invalid pensioner of the United States at \$4. per month which certificate I now send on to be given up if I am placed on the list under the late Act of Congress of the 18th March 1818 at the rate of \$8. per month. I also state that I made a declaration sometime last June in the city of New York before Judge [word illegible — looks like "Rikin"] but have received no return. Fearing that has miscarried or was not done right I make this second declaration.

JOHN PHILLIPS.

State of Vermont }
Caledonia County } ss. I, Isaiah Fisk, Chief Judge of Caledonia County
Court do hereby certify that it appears to my satisfaction that the within named John Phillips did serve in the Revolution-

eight dollars per month. In a second declaration, dated June 29, 1820, he states that he is sixty-three years of age, resides in Middlesex, Vt.; that he is a farmer by occupation, has no wife living, and no other means of support but what labor he is able to perform; has one boy named Charles, seven years old, and one girl named Eliza, aged nine years, dependent on him for support. Joseph Hobart removed to Salina, N. Y., a short time before June, 1842, in order to live with his children, who had moved there. His name was transferred to the roll of New York.

ary war as stated in the foregoing declaration, against the common enemy and I now transmit the proceedings and testimony taken and had before me to the Secretary of the Department of War pursuant to the directions of a late act of Congress entitled "An act of provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," which said declaration is made in order to obtain the provisions of said act. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court this 27th day of April A. D. 1819.¹

ISAIAH FISK.

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire }
County of Grafton } ss. On the fourth day of December A.D. 1839, personally appeared before the subscriber, Edward Webber, Judge of the Court of Probate for said County of Grafton being a Court of Record, Anna Phillips of Plymouth in said County of Grafton and who is a resident of said town, aged seventy five years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7, 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows": That she is the widow of John Phillips late of Westhaven in the county of Rutland and State of Vermont, deceased, who was a private in the war of the revolution and who was a pensioner of the United States in the Vermont Agency; his pension certificate she believes was dated July 16, 1819, and is signed by J. C. Calhoun, Sec. of War. He was a pensioner to the period of his death at the rate of ninety six dollars per annum. She believes he served in Col. Scammel's regiment in Capt. Benjamin Stones company as she has often heard her late husband state. She refers for further proof of her late husband's services in the war of the revolution to the evidence which she believes to be on file in the War Department at Washington, D. C. on which her late husband was pensioned in the Vermont Agency in July 1819 as before stated. She further declares that she was married to the said John Phillips on the eighteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty three as will appear by the affidavit of Jonathan Cummings, Esq. hereunto annexed. That her husband the aforesaid John Phillips died on or about the fifteenth day of August A. D. eighteen hundred and twenty five at Westhaven aforesaid as will more fully appear by the affidavit of John Barns and Isaac Jakway hereunto annexed; that she was not

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 16th of July, 1819, and sent to Isaiah Fisk, Esq., Lyndon, Vt.

married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January, seventeen hundred and ninety four, viz: — at the time above stated and that she has not been married since the aforesaid period of her husbands decease but is now his widow.¹

ANNA PHILLIPS.

Witnesses } Edward Webber
to signature } Jon^a Cummings.
Mary L. Spaulding.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above or before written. Before me, Edward Webber, Judge of Probate.

And I hereby certify that the above named declarant cannot from bodily infirmity attend the Court and that she is a creditable witness.

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

Declaration.

I, Nehemiah Phillips of Wheelock, county of Caledonia and State of Vermont, aged fifty seven years, testify and say that in the spring of the year A. D. 1779, I enlisted into the service of the United States, during the war, in the New Hampshire line. I went to Exeter to draw clothing; from thence to New Windsor and North River and the New Hampshire troops having gone into the Indian Country with Gen. Sullivan before I got there, consequently I was stationed there through the summer under Continental officers, until the Hampshire troops returned late in the fall, to Danbury in Connecticut, when I joined Gen. Poor's brigade and the third New Hampshire regiment, commanded by Col. Scammel and Capt. Ellis' company and we tarried there — through the winter, I remained in this regiment about 18 months, then I was draughted into the light infantry of Gen. Marquise De La Fayette and Col. Barbour's Regiment, Capt. Monroe's Company and marched to Virginia and was gone about one year and was at the taking of Cornwallis and then returned to Saratoga & North River, joined the New Hampshire regiment again then commanded by Col. Henry Dearborn. I continued in the New Hampshire line until the war was ended and I was honorably discharged and my discharge is herewith transmitted. I further say I am in reduced circumstances and need assistance from my country and am and ever have been a citizen of the United States.

NEHEMIAH PHILLIPS.

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 20th day of April, 1840, and sent to Hon. H. Hubbard, Senate U. S.

State of Vermont }

LYNDON April 13th A. D. 1818.

Caledonia } Personally appeared Nehemiah Phillips, signer of
the foregoing deposition and made solemn affirmation to the truth of the
same before me.¹

ISALAH FISK, Judge Cal. County Court.

[Copy of discharge.]

By His Excellency
George Washington, Esq.,
General and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the
United States of America.

These are to Certify that the Bearer hereof Nehemiah Phillips, Private
in the New Hampshire Regiment, having faithfully served in the United
States Four years & Two months and being enlisted for the War only,
is hereby Discharged from the American Army.

Given at Head-Quarters the 7th June 1783.G^{EO}. WASHINGTON.

By His Excellency's

Command,

J. TRUMBULL, Jr. Sec'y

Registered in the Books

of the Regiment, J. BOYNTON, Adjutant.

[On the back.]

HEAD-QUARTERS, June 7th 1783.

The within Certificate shall not avail the Bearer as a Discharge, until
the Ratification of the definitive Treaty of Peace; previous to which
Time, and until Proclamation thereof shall be made, He is to be consid-
ered as being on Furlough.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

*Declaration.*State of Vermont }
Caledonia County } ss.

I, Paul Wells, aged sixty eight years, of Barnet
in the county of Caledonia and State of Vermont,
being duly sworn, declare, depose and say that I enlisted into the United
States' service on or about the first day of February A. D. 1776, passed
muster the 27th of said February, I joined the service of the United
States for the term of one year, that I belonged to Capt. Edward Everett's
company and Col. Bedel's regiment of the New Hampshire line; that

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 16th day of September, 1818, and sent to
Isaiah Fisk, Esq., Lyndon, Vt. Inscribed on the roll of Vermont at the rate
of eight dollars per month.

about the first of March, same year, I marched from Plymouth in N. H. the place where I enlisted in company with some others under command of Ensign Amos Webster for Quebec. I retreated with that part of the regiment sent to Quebec to St. Johns where I joined part of the regiment, that went to a place called the Cedars, commanded by Col. Bedel in person. At St. Johns Col. Wait took the command of the regiment, Col. Bedel having been taken prisoner at the Cedars. The regiment aforesaid continued their retreat to Ticonderoga. After we arrived at Ticonderoga, I with others of my regiment were directed to join the fleet on Lake Champlain under Gen. Arnold. I went on board the vessel, commanded by Capt. Simmons, as a carpenter; soon after the Lieut. of Marines was taken sick and I was ordered to take his place though I never received a commission. I remained on board said fleet until taken by the British when I again joined my regiment at Saratoga and received a Lieutenant's pay from the time I entered on board the fleet until the regiment to which I belonged was discharged on the 29th day of December 1776; at the time of the discharge of said regiment I had the command of said regiment and discharged the same by order of Gen. Gates and received the order to discharge said regiment which I now have in possession and is herewith transmitted. Col. Wait at this time was dead and the other field officers had gone home. I further depose and say that I now am and ever since have been a citizen of the United States and from my reduced circumstances and infirmities of [illegible] need the assistance of my country for support.

PAUL WELLS.

Declared, sworn and subscribed by the above named Paul Wells before me at Danville in the county aforesaid this 7th day of April A. D. 1818.

JOHN RANKIN, Assistant Judge Cal. County Court.

I, Starling Heath, of Danville in the county of Caledonia and State of Vermont depose and say that I was personally knowing to Paul Wells, now of Barnet in said county, enlisting into the service of the United States at Plymouth in the State of New Hampshire, into the company commanded by Capt. Edward Everett, Col. Bedel's regiment in February 1776 for one year. I also enlisted into the said company and we passed muster at said Plymouth on the 27th day of said February and marched soon after to Burlington in Vermont; from thence said Wells went down the Lake to Quebec and after a short stay at Quebec in company with said Wells, we retreated to Ticonderoga in the State of New York and after a service of ten months we were both discharged together at

Charlestown, Mass. on the 29th day of December 1776, and further deponent saith not.¹

STARLING HEATH

Sworn and subscribed before me at Danville in the county of Caledonia the 14th day of July A. D. 1819.

JOHN RANKIN, Judge of Cal. County Court.

Declaration.

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832.

State of New Hampshire }
Grafton County } ss.

On this seventeenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty two, personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of Probate now sitting at Plymouth in and for said county, the Hon. Moor Russell, a resident of Plymouth in said county, aged seventy four years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated — viz: — That he on the 13th day of April in the year of our Lord 1778 at Haverhill in said county of Grafton where he then resided; enlisted into Capt. Timothy Barron's company of New Hampshire State troops in the regiment commanded by Col. Timothy Bedel, Lieut. Col. John Wheelock and Josiah Stow, Major, in the service of the United States (as continentals as he supposes) for the term of one year and immediately thereafter entered said company and served therein as a soldier said term of one year in defence of the frontiers on and adjacent to Connecticut River in the Northern part of New Hampshire & what is now Vermont; and at the expiration of his said term of service or within a few days thereafter received payment therefor in Pierce's final settlement notes. That they marched in detachments in various directions on said frontiers and were employed in the occupation and defence of certain forts which were in said Haverhill; and

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 2d of August, 1819, and sent to Hon. Wm. A. Palmer, Danville, Vt. Inscribed on the roll of Vermont at the rate of eight dollars per month. In a second declaration at Danville, Vt., the 23d of June, 1820, Paul Wells states that he is by occupation a carpenter, crippled in his left arm, but otherwise in usual health for his years. His family consists of his wife Rachel Wells, aged 62 — her health being tolerably good for her age. A very old and much torn paper, which appears to be an appointment of Paul Wells as Second Sergeant in the company commanded by Capt. Edward Everett, and signed by James Osgood, is filed with his claim.

were not engaged with other regiments or troops or officers than those above named ; that he does not recollect that he had an written discharge but was regularly dismissed at the expiration of his said term of one year and received payment as aforesaid. That he was born at Litchfield in said State of New Hampshire on the 30th day of October A. D. 1757 and has no record of his age and does not know of any ; that after the Revolutionary War he resided at said Haverhill until the year 1801 when he removed to said Plymouth where he has resided ever since and now does. That he has not in his possession any documentary evidence of his said services but learns from Gen. Moody Bedel of Bath in said county of Grafton, who was commissary in said regiment, & is son of said Timothy Bedel, Colonel of said regiment, that he the said Moody has the muster roll of said company and regiment on which is his enlistment or memorandums & evidence thereof and his service. And the said Moor Russell names the said Moody Bedel & Jonathan Barron of said Bath and Noah Moulton of Lyman in said county, persons who were in said service with him & can testify to his said service ; and he names Col. William Webster and Capt. David Webster, both of said Plymouth, being in his neighborhood and long acquainted with him, who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution ; and that the clergyman in said Plymouth has lived there but two or three years and consequently has had limited acquaintance with him as to his said service which is the reason of his not referring to him. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Before me Edward Webber, Judge of Probate.

MOOR RUSSELL.

We, William Webster & David Webster, residing in the said town of Plymouth and in the neighborhood of the said Moor Russell, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with the Hon. Moor Russell who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration ; that we believe him to be seventy four years of age ; that he has been a Senator in the Senate & a representative in the Legislature of the said State of New Hampshire ; that he is a person of undoubted veracity and is respected and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier in the Revolutionary war and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed

WILLIAM WEBSTER

the day & year aforesaid

DAVID WEBSTER

Before me Edward Webber, Judge of Probate.

And the said Court does hereby declare his opinion, after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogations prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and served as he states and the Court from this certifies that it appears to him that William Webster, who has signed the above certificate, is resident in said Plymouth & is President of the Bank there and the said David Webster, who has signed the same certificate, is a resident in said Plymouth, and are both credible persons and that their statement is entitled to full credit.

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

I, Moses Dow, Register of said Court of Probate, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Moor Russell for a Pension. In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand and the seal of office this 17th day of October Anno Domini 1832.¹

MOSES DOW.

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire }
County of Grafton } ss. On this fourteenth day of August A. D. 1832, personally appeared before the Hon. Edward Webber, Judge of the Court of Probate in and for said county, in open court now sitting, Joshua Thornton, Esq., a resident of Lyman in said county of Grafton and said State of New Hampshire, aged sixty eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1777 in March with Lieutenant Pennyman and served in Capt. Gray's company in Col. Alexander Scammell's regiment, the third I believe in the New Hampshire line under the following named officers, in the several services he performed all as follows in his narrative here following, viz: — In 1775 I lived in Uxbridge in Worcester County in Massachusetts. I there enlisted into a company of Minute men immediately after Lexington battle in April 1775. I marched with same company to Charlestown, Mass. and there I enlisted for eight months service into Capt. Wyman's company in Col. Patterson's regiment and served it out; we were stationed near Lechmere Point. I was in no battles. We guarded a redoubt between Bunker Hill & Mystic River at the time of the battle of Bunker Hill. I was then very young but belonged to the music. I was a fifer to the company at home and

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 1st day of June, 1833, and sent to Jona. Bliss, Haverhill, N. H. Inscribed on the roll of New Hampshire at the rate of forty dollars per annum.

to Capt. Wyman's also. The fore part of winter I was discharged my time being out and I returned to Uxbridge to my home. That year in December or January 1776 we moved to Moultonborough in New Hampshire and in March 1777, the 19th, I think, I enlisted with Lieut. Pennyman, with whom I lived, into Capt. James Gray's company in Col. Alexander Scammel's regiment, Jonathan Cass father of the Secretary of war was our Ensign; Lieut. Col. Coburn and Major H. Dearborn were our field officers. I enlisted as a fifer for three years. I joined the army at Ticonderoga having gone with Lieut. Pennyman there. Our company were sent to Skeensborough, New York to guard stores and forward communications and we were there when our troops evacuated Ticonderoga. The main army retreated by land through Hubbardton; we went to Fort Anne and then to Fort Edward & then to Fort Miller, then we united with the main army. Then General Schuyler ordered us to Halfmoon near the mouth of the Mohawk & soon after Gen. Gates, who took the command, marched us back to Bemis Heights or Stillwater & there and at Saratoga we had two battles with Burgoyne's army and our Lieut. Col. was killed & Col. Scammel was wounded. After the capture of Burgoyne, our regiment and others marched down to the Mohawk and were stationed near the — falls a few weeks and then we marched to Peekskill in New York State on North River and were stationed there a few weeks. While we lay there, a meeting in our regiment took place and Capt. Beal was killed by a soldier of our company, one Sanderson, who went from Moultonborough, N. H. and Beal killed him too. Then we went to the woods in Valley Forge and made our huts and wintered there in the front line. Then I had the small pox and many others, and early in June we marched without tents or baggage to Monmouth and there fought a battle on a very hot day: We were detached to the left to get round the British to their rear; we had marched that day over a [three words illegible] plain & in the night some of our recruits fired on each other by mistake and produced much confusion for a few moments. On the 4th day of July we were at Brunswick and celebrated the day for the first time. Then we went across North River to White Plains and then to Reading to winter, where we built huts and wintered. In the spring of 1779, we recrossed the North River, went into Pennsylvania to Easton on the Delaware, then to Wyoming & then up the Susquehanna about one hundred and ten miles & then crossed over to Tioga Point between Chemung River and East Branch, we marched all night up the river to surprise a party of Indians lying at a place called Chemung, we got there just daylight; the Indian dogs began to bark; the Indians fled & we took their tracks and about four miles above, the Pennsylvania Brigade under

Gen. Hand fell into an ambush & had several killed and wounded. We returned to Tioga Point, there we built a redoubt and left our invalids and heavy baggage and went into the Indian country northwest, up Chemung River to a place called Watertown & there had a general battle with the Indians. The Indians lay in ambush & our Indians discovered it and gave us notice in an open field, the woods before and behind us. We retreated back to the woods we had left and then our brigade was ordered to go to the left of the Indians to get into their rear and as the river was on their right, to hem them in. The battle began before we had reached their outer rear and some escaped between us & the river and ran between our regiments and some were killed and Lieut. M^cAuley of our brigade was killed and some others. And then we traversed the shore of Seneca Lake and some others and crossed the Genesee River & destroyed all the Indian towns to Genesee Castle so called. We were put on half allowance for all the [three words illegible] & were to be paid for it but never were. We returned to Tioga Point, then in boats down the Susquehannah to Wyoming, then back to our winter quarters at Reading or Newtown in Connecticut & there wintered, and in the spring we marched to West Point by Hartford, and soldier fortune and then on the dark day I was discharged in May 1780 the 19th I think. Col. Dearborn signed it I think. I kept it several years. It was an honorable discharge. I was made fife Major and had a warrant from the Col. for near two years of the seven. I have lost that too. I never saw Capt. Gray after we lay at Skeensborough or at Fort Anne where we had a battle. Lieut. Pennyman was our commander after that and Ensign Cass Lieutenant to our company. Gen. Poor was our Brigadier General. Lieut. Cass in the Indian country after a battle found a large Indian wounded with a tomahawk in his hand. I was near them. The Indian said ——— Cass wrested the tomahawk from him & killed him. I served in all this time three years & two months, the last two months for Sargent Currier whose place I took by the officers permission. I cannot say just how long I was fife Major but think it about two years. There are very few of my company alive & none that I know of now but there are several of the same regiment, Major Preston then Sergeant Preston of Rumney, N. H., was out all the three years, also Smart of Rumney and Keyes of Plymouth & Thomas Currier of Bath, all of the same regiment, I believe are living & if so & my name is not found for all the years, I can prove it by them I think. I was appointed fife Major when we lay at Valley Forge in the beginning of 1778. I have found an old paper that the Lieut. of our company gave me to show what pay he had drawn for me and I subjoin it, also the testimony of Thomas Currier, he being present in Court. He hereby relinquishes

every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

JOSHUA THORNTON.

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states.¹

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

Declaration.

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed Feb. 3, 1853.

State of New Hampshire, County of Grafton ss.

On this 25 day of April A. D. 1853, personally appeared before me Andrew S. Woods, Judge of the Superior Court of Judicature in and for said State, Sarah C. Thornton, a resident of Orford in said county, aged fifty nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration, to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress entitled "An act to continue half pay to certain widows and orphans" passed February 3^d 1853. That she is the widow of Joshua Thornton and has been his widow ever since he died; that he was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and served as a fifer in the army; that up to the time of his death he was in the receipt of a pension from the United States at the rate of eighty eight dollars per annum & that his name was on the roll of the Concord, N. H. agency for paying pensions in New Hampshire. She further declares that she was married to the said Joshua Thornton by Ambrose Porter of Lyman on the 1st day of February A. D. 1830, that her said husband died on the 27th day of July A. D. 1843, that she was married to him at the time above stated. She further swears that she was a widow at the time of the passage of the said act and is still a widow and that her name before her marriage aforesaid was Sarah Converse and that she has not applied for a pension before.²

SARAH C. THORNTON.

Sworn to & subscribed before Andrew S. Woods, Judge of the Superior Court of Judicature for the State

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 24th day of October, 1832, and sent to Ira Goodale, Bath, N. H. Inscribed on the rolls of New Hampshire at the rate of eighty-eight dollars per annum.

² Certificate of Pension, issued the 24th day of September, 1853, and sent to L. D. Stevens, Concord, N. H. Inscribed on the roll at the rate of eighty-eight dollars per annum.

Declaration.

State of Vermont }
 Caledonia County } ss. On this fourteenth day of July 1819, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the County Court within and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Starling Heath of Danville in said county, aged sixty one, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the late act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war"; That he the said Starling Heath enlisted for the term of during the war on the 27th day of February A. D. 1777 in Plaistow in New Hampshire in the company commanded by Capt. Benjamin Stone of the regiment commanded by Col. Alexander Scammel in the line of the State of New Hampshire on the Continental Establishment and he continued to serve in said corps, or in the service of the United States until the month of June 1783 when he was honorably discharged from service in Newburgh in the State of New York; that he was in the battles of Mowmouth and Kingsbridge and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of said services.

Sworn to and declared before me the day and year aforesaid.

JOHN RANKIN, Judge of Caledonia County Court.

I, Benjamin Stone, of Landaff in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, depose and say that in the month of February A. D. 1777, I enlisted Starling Heath into my company of infantry in Col. Alexander Scammel's regiment of the New Hampshire line of which company I then was Captain; that he continued to do duty in my company for during the war for which he enlisted & was in June 1783 honorably discharged from the service at Newburgh in the State of New York; that he was a good, faithful soldier.¹

BENJAMIN STONE.

Sworn to and subscribed before John French, Justice of the Peace

Affidavit of Joshua Thornton of Lyman who served in same company, for Starling Heath, is also attached to his declaration

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 2d of August, 1819, and sent to Hon. Wm. A. Palmer, Danville, Vt. Inscribed on the roll of Vermont at the rate of eight dollars per month.

Declaration.

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th July 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." State of New Hampshire, County of Grafton ss.

On this fourteenth day of August A. D. 1838, personally appeared before Edward Webber, Judge of the Court of Probate for said County of Grafton, Elizabeth Heath, a resident of Plymouth, in the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy two years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows"; That she is the widow of Starling Heath, late of Cabot in the County of Caledonia, and State of Vermont, deceased, who was a soldier and private in the war of the Revolution and was a pensioner of the United States, as she believes, under the act of Congress passed in A. D. 1818 and so continued to the period of his death. She refers to the evidence on file in the War Department for evidence of his services and officers under whom he served. When placed upon the pension list he was a resident of Danville in said County of Caledonia and State of Vermont. She further states that she was married to the said Starling Heath at New Chester (now Hill) in said County of Grafton the thirteenth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and eighty three by Carr Huse, Justice of the Peace; that her husband, the aforesaid Starling Heath died on the twenty-eighth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight at Cabot aforesaid; that she was not married to him previous to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, seventeen hundred and ninety four viz. at the time above stated; and that she is still the widow of the said Starling Heath having never married since said Starling Heath died as above stated. She further states that to the best of her recollection, said Starling Heath enlisted at said New Chester in March 1776 in Capt. Everett's company, and was stationed to guard the frontiers — said enlistment she thinks was for one year which he served out and returned home. Soon after his return he again enlisted and served during the war but his officers' names she does not recollect. For further particulars of his services she must refer to evidence now on file in the War Department. Has no documentary evidence.

Witnesses to signature

Edward Webber

Dearborn Perkins

her
ELIZABETH X HEATH.
mark.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written.

Before me — EDWARD WEBBER, { Judge of the Court of Probate
for said County of Grafton.

And I hereby certify that the said applicant cannot from bodily infirmity attend Court.

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

I, Samuel C. Heath, of Plymouth in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, of lawful age, depose and say that Starling Heath, late of Cabot in the County of Caledonia and State of Vermont, deceased, died at said Cabot on the twenty eighth day of October, eighteen hundred and twenty eight. I was present at his death and attended his funeral. I further state that Elizabeth Heath of said Plymouth, was the wife and is now the widow of the said Starling Heath and that she has not married since the said Starling Heath's decease and that the said Elizabeth Heath is an applicant for a pension.

Aug. 14. 1838.

SAMUEL C. HEATH.

State of New Hampshire }
Grafton County } ss. Aug. 14, 1838, personally appeared Samuel C. Heath, who is a credible witness and who subscribed the above affidavit and made solemn oath to the truth of the above affidavit.

Before me, EDWARD WEBBER, Justice of the Peace.

Starling Heath was married to Elizabeth Ladd by Carr Huse, Just. Peace; a true copy of the record with the exception of the date which is expressed on the record in fair, legible figures as follows — December the thirtieth, one thousand seven hundred and eighty three, December 30th 1783.¹

WM. W. PROCTOR, Clerk of the town Hill.

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire

Grafton ss.

On this sixteenth day of May 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for said county, personally appears Joseph Homan aged fifty three years, resident in Campton in said State, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late Act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for cer-

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 7th day of September, 1838, and sent to Hon. Robert Burns, Plymouth, N. H. Inscribed on the roll of Concord, N. H., at the rate of eighty dollars per annum.

tain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war." That he, the said Joseph Homan enlisted in April 1781 in the State of New Hampshire in the company commanded by Capt. Ellis of the first New Hampshire regiment commanded by Col. Scammel, Col. Henry Dearborn and Major Scott; that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, until the 20th Dec. 1783. when he was discharged from service in West Point State of New York; that he was in several battles and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

Sworn to and declared before me, the day and year aforesaid.

EZRA BARTLETT.

[Copy of Joseph Homan's discharge.]

By the Honourable Michael Jackson, Esq., Bri. General Commanding the Garrison of West Point and its Dependenceies.

These are to certify that the bearer, Joseph Homan, Soldier in the N. Hampshire Line is honourably Discharged from the American Army.

Given under my hand, Garrison West Point, Dec. 20th, 1783.¹

M. JACKSON, B. General.

Registered in the books
of the Regiment.

J. ADAMS, Adj.

Ezra Bartlett, Esq Haverhill

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire }
Grafton County ss. }

On this seventh day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty eight, personally appeared before the Court of Probate of Wills &c. within and for said county, holden at Plymouth in said county, the same being a Court of Record, Sarah Homan a resident of Plymouth in said county, aged seventy three years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Joseph Homan, who was a private in the Revolutionary army in the New Hampshire line as this applicant understood and to the best of her knowledge and belief served in Capt. Ellis' company in the 1st New Hampshire Regi-

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 18th of March, 1819, and sent to Ezra Bartlett.

ment commanded by Colonel Dearborn and others and left the service December 20th 1783 being discharged then by Brigadier General Michael Jackson commanding the garrison at West Point and its dependencies, that this applicant has no means of stating time when said Joseph entered said service or how long he remained in it, that he entered it as she believes at Kingston in New Hampshire, that she does not know whether he was drafted or was a volunteer or substitute, the battles, if any, he was engaged in or the country through which he marched. That he was a revolutionary pensioner at the time of his decease and resided at the time of his certificate in Campton in said county of Grafton. She further declares that she was married to the said Joseph Homan at said Kingston on the fourteenth day of May in the year of our Lord 1789, that her husband the aforesaid Joseph Homan died at Warren in said county of Grafton on the second day of February Anno Domini 1830 — that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four, viz. — at the time above stated.

SARAH HOMAN

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year as above written. before
EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.¹

Declaration.

State of New Hampshire }
County of Grafton } ss.

On this fourth day of September personally appeared before the Judge of the Court of Probate for said county now sitting, Samuel Morse, a resident of Plymouth in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, aged eighty two years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed June 7th, 1832, That he enlisted in the service of the United States under following named officers and served as he states (to wit) That in April 1775 at Chester in the county of Rockingham and State aforesaid, he volunteered in the company commanded by Capt. Moses Baker of Candia, N. H. on hearing of the battle of Lexington and immediately marched toward said Lexington — When he arrived at Medford, Mass. they found the enemy had returned to Boston and he was there stationed (Medford) and in the vicinity for one month when he was discharged and returned home to said Chester. Soon after arriving here and among the first of the troops enlisted, he again entered the service of the United States by

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued April 6, 1839, and sent to N. P. Rogers, Esq., Plymouth.

voluntary enlistment at said Chester for eight or nine months, he is not positive which, in the company commanded by Capt. Hutchins of Hampstead, N. H. in Col. Reed's regiment, N. H. militia and served faithfully the full term of his enlistment in the vicinity of Boston, Mass., during which time the ever memorable Battle of Bunker Hill was fought in which he was engaged and took an active part. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he was honorably discharged and returned to said Chester. In the year 1776, the last of August or first of September, he again enlisted for three months in the company commanded by Capt. Runnels of Derry, N. H. and was attached to the regiment commanded by Col. Tash, marched to Fishkill, N. Y. where he was stationed about one week, thence went to Peekskill, N. Y. where he served out his full term of enlistment and was discharged and returned home to said Chester. The battle of White Plains happened soon after he went to (word torn from paper) Gen. Washington commanded. In the year 1777, about the last of August or first of September, at Plymouth aforesaid he volunteered on an expedition to stop Gen. Burgoyne, with others and started with a determination to take him at any rate. On this expedition he was in the company commanded by Capt. Willoughby. He marched from said Plymouth to Saratoga, N. Y. and served in said expedition until after the surrender of Burgoyne (Oct. 17th. 1777) when he was discharged and returned to said Plymouth, having served in this last expedition a little short of two months. In the whole of his service, he has served, he thinks, about fourteen or fifteen months, not positive which as he cannot say positively whether his enlistment in the vicinity of Boston was eight or nine months. He has no documentary evidence, never received any but a verbal discharge. Since the Revolutionary war he has lived in said Plymouth where he now lives. He was born 1750 at said Chester, does not know of any record of his age. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

SAMUEL MORSE.

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier, and served as he states.

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

Amendment to the within Declaration.

State of New Hampshire }
County of Grafton } ss.

On this 2nd day of April 1833, personally appeared before the Judge of the Court of Probate for said county now sitting, Samuel Morse, a resi-

dent of Plymouth in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, aged 82 years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration as an amendment to the within, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, (to wit) That under his second enlistment he served a period not less than eight months which term he served out under the within named officers. He refers to the Rev. Ebenezer Blodgett, Solomon Bayley, Col. William Webster and D. M. Russell all of Plymouth aforesaid, to all of whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.¹

SAMUEL MORSE.

[The testimony of Ebenezer Blodgett and Solomon Bayley is attached to this amendment and is simply a repetition of the above statement.]

State of New Hampshire }

Strafford ss. }

On this 24th day of April A. D. 1818, before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for said County, personally appears Adna Penniman aged sixty two years, resident of the town of Moultonborough, County and State aforesaid, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision of the late act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War": That he the said Adna Penniman in the month of April 1775 enlisted as a private soldier in said service in the town of Uxbridge, State of Massachusetts, for eight months in the company commanded by Capt. William Wyman and regiment commanded by Col. John Patterson and Massachusetts line; that he continued to serve in said corps as aforesaid until December 1775 when he was dismissed at Cambridge, State of Massachusetts. And on the eighth day of November 1776 he was commissioned and entered the aforesaid service of the United States as a second Lieutenant in the company commanded by Capt. James Gray and regiment commanded by Col. Alexander Scammel, New Hampshire line; that he continued to do duty as said second Lieutenant until the first day of May 1778 when he took rank and did the duty as a first Lieutenant in said regiment and on the 16th day of June 1779 he was commissioned and that he continued to serve as a commissioned officer as aforesaid in the continental service of the United States in the war aforesaid from November 1776 until sometime in the year 1781 when he was deranged as a supernumerary officer

¹ Certificate of Pension was issued the 25th day of September, 1833, and sent to Edward Webber, Rumney, N. H.

and dismissed at a place called Soldiers Fortune in the State of New York until called for and that he was never called for afterward ; that he was in both battles at Fort Anne and both at Stillwater in 1777, in Mommouth in 1778 and at Newton in 1779 ; and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support. Sworn to and declared before me the day and year aforesaid.¹

WILLIAM BADGER.

[Affidavits by Nathaniel Shannon and Jonathan Richardson of Moultonborough for Adna Penniman.]

Filed with Adna Penniman's papers is a badly torn document which appears to be his commission, by Congress, as Second Lieutenant in Captain Gray's company in the Third Battalion of New Hampshire troops commanded by Col. Alexander Scammell. It is dated Nov. 8, 1776, and signed by John Hancock. The following are copies of two other papers filed with his claim: —

"I Adna Peniman 2^d Lieut. in the 3^d N. Ham. Regt. do acknowledge the United States of America to be Free, Independent and Sovereign States, and declare that the people thereof owe no allegiance or obedience to George the Third, King of Great-Britain ; and I renounce, refuse and abjure any allegiance or obedience to him ; and I do swear that I will, to the uttermost of my power, support, maintain and defend the said United States against the said King George the Third, his heirs and successors, and his or their abettors, assistants and adherents, and will serve the said United States in the office of Second Lieut. which I now hold, with fidelity, according to the best of my skill and understanding.

ADNA PENNIMAN.

Sworn before me Camp
Valley forge May 15, 1778.
ENOCH POOR, B. General.

The United States of America in Congress Assembled.

To Adna Penniman Gent^{le} Greeting, We, Reposing especial trust and confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, Do by these presents constitute and appoint you, to be a Lieutenant in the third New Hampshire Regiment in the Army of the United States, to take rank as such from the 1st day of May A. D. 1778 ; You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Lieutenant by doing and performing

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 5th of March, 1819, and sent to William Badger, Esq., New Hampshire. Inscribed on the roll of New Hampshire at the rate of twenty dollars per month.

all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as Lieutenant And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, a Committee of the States, or Commander in chief for the time being of the Army of the United States, or any other your superior Officers; according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this, or a future Congress, the Committee of Congress before mentioned, or a Committee of States.

Witness his Excellency John Jay, Esq. President of the Congress of the United States of America, at Philadelphia the 26th day of June 1779, and in the third year of our Independence.

JOHN JAY —

Entered in the War Office
and examined by the Board.

Attest

P. SCULLS, Secretary of the Board of War.

The declaration of Bruce Walker, who married Mehitable Currier (see Vol. II), states that he enlisted at Concord, serving in Colonel Baldwin's regiment, 1776; also in Captain Bowman's company at Portsmouth, one month, early in 1777; also served in Colonel Senter's regiment at Rhode Island from May 1, 1777, to Jan. 1, 1778. Following his death his widow was a pensioner. It will be noted that her papers were drawn by Governor Berry.

State of New Hampshire.

Grafton County ss.

On, this twenty eighth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty three, personally appeared before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas within and for the county of Grafton aforesaid, Mehetible Walker, a resident of the town of Hebron in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, aged eighty one years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th, 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows" and joint resolution passed Aug. 16th 1842 extending the provisions of said act. That she is the widow of Bruce Walker who was a private soldier in the war of the revolution and was at the time of his death a revolutionary

pensioner of the United States under the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. She has no documentary evidence to prove his services but respectfully refers to the declaration and testimony furnished to the War Department by her said husband in support of his claim to a pension, to support her own claim. She further declares that she was married to the said Bruce Walker sixty two years ago last September by the Rev. Mr. Walker of Concord in the County of Merrimack and State aforesaid. That her husband the aforesaid Bruce Walker died on the twenty seventh day of July, one thousand eight hundred and forty and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

MEHETIBLE WALKER.¹

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above mentioned.

Before me

N. S. BERRY, Justice of the Court of Common Pleas.

I hereby certify that the said applicant by reason of bodily infirmity cannot attend Court.

N. S. BERRY, Justice of the Court of Common Pleas.

Declaration.

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June, 1832.

State of New Hampshire } ss.
County of Grafton }

On this fourth day of September, personally appeared before the Judge of the Court of Probate for said county now sitting, Solomon Bayley a resident of Plymouth in the county of Grafton and State of New Hampshire, aged seventy seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed June 7th, 1832. That he enlisted in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated (to wit): that in April 1775 at New Salem (now Salem) He volunteered under Capt. Woodbury, on receiving the express of the battle of Lexington, & marched to that place (Lexington) and served in said Woodbury's company of militia about two weeks during which time he was not attached to any regiment; was then discharged and returned home to said Salem in the county of Rockingham and State aforesaid. He again volunteered the

¹ She was a pensioner under the acts of July 7, 1838, March 3, 1843, and Feb. 2, 1848.

last of June or first of July 1775 at said Salem on an alarm and marched to old Salem, Mass. and served about one week when he was discharged and returned home to said New Salem. In the year 1775 in the first part of October at said New Salem he enlisted for three months in the company commanded by Capt. Webster of Plaistow, N. H. Messrs Gile & Wheeler were Lieutenants in said company, and marched first to Winter Hill near Boston where he was stationed under the command of Col. Stark about two weeks; thence he marched to Cambridge, Mass. and there joined the Connecticut troops under the command of Col. Brewer where he served out his full term of enlistment and was discharged. He again immediately enlisted under the aforesaid officers for six weeks as more troops were expected on in that time but in consequence of the troops not arriving so soon as they expected, he served under the last enlistment two months when he was discharged and returned to said New Salem, having served in the two last terms five months. In the year 1777, the last of June or first of July, he enlisted again at Hopkinton, Merrimack County, State of N. H. in a company of militia commanded by Lieutenant Dow of said Hopkinton and marched to Ticonderoga through Charleston then called No. 4 and served in said expedition two weeks when he was discharged and returned to said Hopkinton. About the middle of July 1777, at said Hopkinton, he again enlisted in the company commanded by Capt. Joshua Bayley of said Hopkinton, for three months and marched with his company immediately for Manchester, Vt. where he was stationed about two weeks; thence he marched to Bennington, Vt. and was in the memorable battle of Bennington (Aug. 1777); thence he marched to Stillwater where and in the vicinity, he served out his full term of three months, was discharged and returned to Hopkinton aforesaid. In the last expedition he was attached to the regiment commanded by Col. Stickney of Concord, N. H. and under the command of Gen. Stark. Messrs. Bowman and Farnum were Lieutenants in his company. In the whole he has served his country faithfully a little over nine months to the best of his recollection. He never received any but verbal discharges, has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. Since the war of the revolution, he has lived in said Hopkinton and in Plymouth aforesaid and for more than forty years, last part in said Plymouth where he now lives. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

SOLOMON BAYLEY.

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion, that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states.

EDWARD WEBBER, Judge of Probate.

I, Moses Dow, Clerk of the Court of Probate aforesaid do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court, in the matter of the application of Solomon Bayley for a pension. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this fourth day of September A. D. 1832.

MOSES DOW.

Amendment to the within Declaration.

State of New Hampshire } ss. On this second day of April A. D. 1833,
County of Grafton } personally appeared before the Judge of
the Court of Probate now sitting, Solomon Bayley, a resident of Plymouth
in the county of Grafton and State of N. H., aged 78 years, who being
first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following
declaration as an amendment to the within declaration, in order to obtain
the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th
1832 (to wit). Under the first enlistment or volunteering, he served
under the within named Woodbury a period not less than two weeks.
Capt. Eaton from Haverhill, Mass. commanded a company of militia at
the same place and time; there were other companies but he does not
recollect other officers so as to give their names. The 2nd time he vol-
unteered was on an alarm occasioned by several British vessels lying
near old Salem but by reason of old age and the consequent loss of
memory he cannot recollect to give the names of his officers but recol-
lects that Thomas Harriman, Thomas Bayley and others from said New
Salem volunteered and went with him and in this last expedition he
served a period not less than one week. Under the two next enlistments
he served a period not less than five months and under the officers within
named. Under the next enlistment in which he served under Lieut. Dow
on arriving or about the time his company arrived at Fort Ticonderoga,
the Fort was given up and abandoned and he with his company immedi-
ately joined the retreat and after serving a period not less than two
weeks, he was discharged. Generals Schuyler & Sinclair commanded at
Ticonderogo. Under his last enlistment he served a period not less
than three months and under the officers within stated. By reason of
old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot state very partic-
ular but he served at least a period not less than nine months and one
week. He was born in Haverhill, Mass. 1755, Feb. 11th; the record of
his age is on the town record in said Haverhill as he believes and also
heard from his brother who saw it on said records as his brother told

him. He refers to the Rev. Ebenezer Blodget, Samuel Morse, Samuel Webster, Esq. Hon. Moor Russell and Samuel Morse, Jr., all of said Plymouth, to all of whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.¹

SOLOMON BAYLEY.

[Affidavits by Ebenezer Blodget and Samuel Morse, stating their belief that he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, are attached to his declaration.]

Declaration.

New Hampshire State. } On this fourteenth day of November Anno
County of Grafton } Domini eighteen hundred and thirty five personally appeared in open court before the Justice of the Court of Common Pleas for said State now sitting, Samuel Kimball, a resident of Plymouth in the county of Grafton aforesaid, aged eighty years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted into the service of the United States under Capt. John Calfe of Hampstead in the County of Rockingham in said State of New Hampshire in the month of August or September in the year 1775 at Portsmouth in said county of Rockingham — An alarm was made that the enemy were about landing at Portsmouth, news of it reached Newtown in said county of Rockingham where this applicant then lived, that he volunteered, went to Portsmouth and there enlisted for a short period under said Calfe or Calef, assisted in erecting a breast work on Great Island and remained in said service about three weeks. That in the last of June or early part of July in the year 1776 the said acclaintant again enlisted into said service at Newtown aforesaid and immediately repaired to Chester in said county of Rockingham where a company was organized under Capt. David Quimby of Haniker, Lieut. Webster of Kingston and Ensign Gile of Chester, from Chester said company and this acclaintant marched to Charlestown, N^o 4, in the county of Cheshire in said State, thence to Fort Independence on Lake Champlain where he served until the last of November of that year, was dismissed at said Fort and returned home to Newtown having served five months. That in August or September in the year 1778 he again

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 25th day of April, 1833, and sent to Edward Webber, Rumney, N. H. Inscribed on the roll of New Hampshire at the rate of twenty-six dollars and thirty-three cents per annum.

enlisted at Amesbury, a town adjoining said Newtown, into a company commanded by Capt. Clark of Newbury Port, Lieut. French of Salisbury and Ensign John Patten of Amesbury for three months or ninety days, said company and this acclaint proceeded to Rhode Island and joined the army under General Sullivan and served there till near the last of said last mentioned term of enlistment when he was dismissed and returned home to Newtown. That in all these several services he was a volunteer, was not in any engagement, was not in the retreat from Rhode Island having been drafted with some others a few days previous to man the boats at Bristol Ferry he thinks in the transport of baggage. Thinks the regiment to which he belonged was commanded by Col. Titcomb, that in his services at Fort Independence he was under General Gates, Col. Wingate and Lieut. Col. Connor and Major Baker. That he knows no person living by whom he can prove his service or any part of it and that he has no documentary evidence thereof. That he was born at said Newtown on the ninth day of April in the year 1755, has no record of his age, had once a book of accounts belonging to his father in which his birth was recorded which has long been lost or destroyed. That he lived when called into the service at the places aforementioned, that after his last service aforesaid he resided in Newtown about seven years, thence to Amesbury where he resided one year, thence to Salisbury in Massachusetts where he resided three years, thence to Southampton where he resided seven years, thence to Andover in New Hampshire where he resided twenty nine years and removed thence to Plymouth in said county of Grafton where he has ever since resided and now lives. That he never to his recollection received any written discharge from the service. States the names of Elijah Blaisdell, Esquire & Humphrey Webster, the latter of Plymouth, the former of Lebanon in said county of Grafton now attending said court as solicitor or said county to whom he is known, who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. That he resides about four miles distant from the clergyman of Plymouth in a [word illegible] part of the town and having remained a good deal at home is not well acquainted with him. He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

SAMUEL KIMBALL.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.¹

NATHAN B. FELTON, Clerk of said Court.

¹ Certificate of Pension, issued the 9th day of May, 1836, and sent to Hon. Robert Burns.

[The affidavits of Elijah Blaisdell and Humphrey Webster in support of Samuel Kimball are attached to his original declaration. They state their belief that Samuel Kimball was a soldier of the Revolution, but give no information.]

Edward Evans was a pensioner. The evidence in his case was destroyed in the fire of 1814.

David Nevins, Jr., died immediately after his discharge. In an application for bounty land, his heirs prove his service and death, but present no fact not stated elsewhere.

Nicholas Hall was a pensioner, and his declaration confirms the statements made in the former chapters. He was born in Haverhill, Mass., and in 1820 was fifty-eight years of age. His family in 1820 consisted of a wife, Mary, aged fifty-four, and a daughter, Emily, aged twelve years. After the war he lived a few years in New Chester and subsequently in Chateaugay, Franklin County, N. Y., where he died Sept. 6, 1831. The papers represent that he was married by Ebenezer Webster, Esq., in Salisbury, to Mary Sanborn March 29, 1784. She was a pensioner and was living 1839.

Nahum Powers removed from Plymouth to Haverhill, and soon after to Newbury, Vt. In the Vermont Revolutionary Rolls he is credited with service in Capt. Nehemiah Lovewell's company, of Colonel Wait's battalion, from July 1 to August 10, 1781, when he was taken a prisoner. The company remained in the service until late in November, 1781.

In an application for a pension Nahum Powers recites his earlier service, and continues: "That in the year 1781, he again enlisted under Capt. Nehemiah Lovewell for the term of eight months and was attached to Col. Benjamin Wait's regiment, that on the tenth day of August, 1781, he was taken prisoner by the Indians on Hazen's road near Lake Champlain and was taken to Quebec and exchanged on the seventeenth day of May following."

The State of Vermont paid him, Oct. 24, 1782, £23 0s. 4d. for a gun and clothing lost and for service from date of enlistment to June 22, 1782. In 1818, when he made application for a pension, he was living at Schlasser, N. Y.

XIII. REVOLUTIONARY DOCUMENTS.

ORIGINAL documents are the fundamental material of history. The voluminous files of original papers preserved in the office of the Secretary of State contain a considerable number of letters and miscellaneous papers of the Revolutionary period relating to men and affairs of Plymouth. Some of these documents have been presented at length in former chapters, and others, possibly of equal interest, are reserved for this chapter.

The original of the following letter is in the files of the town clerk of Plymouth.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Plymouth

Gentlemen.

As your Representative in Provential Congress, I am to acquaint you that by orders of Congress it is Recommended & Desired that your said Town of Plymouth meet & choose a sutable person or Agent to meet with the several Agents of the adjoining Towns (which meeting of said Agents I appoint to be held at the Court House in said Plymouth on Friday the 23^d Instant at one oclock, afternoon, then & there when meet to appoint & choose sutable persons to serve as Field Officers in the Regiment of Militia Consisting of those Towns Represented by an agent which said appointment of officers, if approved by said Congress, to be by them Commissioned Accordingly.

ABEL WEBSTER

Plymouth June 17 A. D. 1775.

PLYMOUTH October 27, 1775.

This may certify, that whereas you have informed me that I was appointed by Congress, a Major in Coll. Walker's Regiment of Militia men, I am much obliged to Congress for their notice of me in this Respect, But for weighty Reasons I must decline serving my Country in that office, th^o I am always ready on all occasions, cheerfully to exert

my utmost abilities in the service of my Country & to defend our Liberties & privileges. Therefore you may proceed to a new nomination.¹

I am Gen^m your friend & servant

BENJⁿ GOOLD

To Abel Webster & Moses Dow.

PLYMOUTH September ye 6, 1775.

Reed of Colleney's store fifty tew Pounds of Powder by the hand of David Webster for Cap^t John Parkers Company I say Reed per me

JOHN PARKER

PLYMOUTH March ye 24, 1776.

Reed of the Colleney's store twenty three Pounds of Powder by the hand of David Webster for Capt Edward Everett's Company

I say Reed by me

EDWARD EVERETT

Col. David Webster. Sir. — Deliver out of ye Colony Powder one pound to each man, viz: part of Capt. Osgood's company and part of Capt. John Parker's company now keeping by order of Congress. Take a receipt for the same.

Sept. 5, 1775.

ISRAEL MOREY by order of
the Committee of Safety.

PLYMOUTH 5th Sept^r 1775.

Sir, pay to M^r Samuel Emerson ten Pounds Lawful Money on acct. of Blankets he has D'd to part of Cap^t Osgood's Comp^y. of Rangers and Place to the acct. of the Colony of New Hampshire

ISRAEL MOREY

To the Committee of Supplys for said Colony Dⁿ Samuel Brooks Treasurer of said Committee £10-0-0

Pay the Contents of the within order to M^r Noyes Hopkinson

SAMUEL EMERSON

1775 Septem 23 Received of Samuel Brooks the within order in full

NOYES HOPKINSON

The Town of Plymouth to

1776

Abel Webster Dr.

February. To myself, horse & Expense in a journey to Bath
after the Indians. On acct. of one being sick
at Boscawen

£1-7.

¹ Abel Webster and Moses Dow, to whom the letter of Benjamin Goold was addressed, were delegates in the provincial congress at Exeter. See Chapter VIII.

March.	To Myself, two horses, a man & Expenses in a journey to Orford transporting 1 Dead & 1 live Indian	£1. 13.
		<hr/> £3.

The Town of Plymouth to

Samuel Dearborn Dr.

Febry. 1776.	To myself, horse & Expense in a journey to Haverhill helping to transport a live Indian and a dead Indian	£0-18-0
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SAMUEL DEARBORN.

This is to certify the Treasury of the Colony of New Hampshire, That Nahum Powers of Plymouth in the County of Grafton in said Colony, did Inlist himself a Soldier in the Continental Army last year and has Reinlisted again this year, his Pool Tax to the Colony being two shillings and eight pence is by a Resolve of the Congress or General Court of this Colony Released to him

Plymouth 29th May, 1776.

EBENEZER BLODGET	} Select Men
JAMES HARVELL	

TIANTORROGE July 29, 1776

I embrace this opertunity to rite to you. I intended to have Rite to you in full of all our afares but I have not time. So I shall rite in part in our defeat we burnt Shamble and St. Johns and the White House and came to Elenook, there the Indians kild and scalped four men and took five prisoners and when we came from the Elenoak there was twelve hundred of us went by land and found two men dead and scalpt lay on the ground. We buried the dead and burnt the house and barn and store house & took six cows and kiled some cows and calves and hogs and destroyed all that we cod; this house belongings to a Scotchman, who was a tory Rite to me every opertunity¹

I remain your loving Brother

AMOS WEBSTER

To Col. David Webster

State of New Hampshire.	to the Selectmen of Plymouth Dr.
-------------------------	----------------------------------

1779	To paid the following Men enlisted in the Continental
May 19	Service during the present war with Great Britain

¹ The original letter of Lieut. Amos Webster is in the possession of Miss Lucia Webster.

Nehemiah Phillips Continental Bounty £60.	
State Bounty £90.	£150. 0. 0
Nicholas Hall Continental Bounty £60.	
State do. £90 Per Rect.	150. 0. 0
June 14 Winthrop Fox Continental Bounty £60.	
State do 90	150. 0. 0
	<hr/>
Per Rect. to Colo. David Hobart	450. 0. 0
Errors Excepted in behalf of the Selectmen of Plymouth	Per SAML EMERSON, Selectman.

In Committee on Claims, Exeter Dec. 16, 1779 — The above acco. is well vouched & right cast amount four hundred & fifty pounds —

Exd. Per JOSIAH GILMAN Jr.

Reed an order on the Treasurer for Four hundred & fifty pounds in behalf of the Selectmen of Plymouth

JOS. SENTER

State of New Hampshire. — to the Select-men of Plymouth Dr.

1779 To paid Peter Stearns a Soldier inlisted in Colo-
July 15 nel Mooney's Regimt. raised by the State of
New Hampshire for the defence of Rhode Island
— Bounty £30. — Travel to Providence £17. £47. 0. 0

Errors Excepted in behalf of the Selectmen of
Plymouth Per SAML. EMERSON, Select Man

In Committee on Claims, Exeter Dec. 16th, 1779 —

The above is right cast & well vouched — amount Forty seven pounds —

Examd. Per JOSIAH GILMAN Jun.

In the proceedings of the committee of safety, July 5, 1782, it was "Ordered the Treasurer to pay by Discount out of the tax for the year 1781 to Samuel Stearns, Constable at Plymouth, five Dollars, New Emission, being for milage to Soldiers to Coos. 5 Doll."

An account of the Moneys supplied the Families of the Soldiers in the Town of Plymouth ingaged in the Continental Service. The supplies from the Tenth day of March 1778 to the Tenth of March 1779 according to the Selectmens accounts & Records for the last year are as follows

	Paid by the Soldier	Extra expense paid by the Town	Total
James Barns	£10- 4 9	£68-13-10	£78-18- 7
Benjamin Phillips	8-12-11	50- 3-10	58-16- 9
Edward Evins	6- 4- 9	39- 5- 8	45-10- 6
	<hr/> £25- 2- 5	<hr/> £158- 3- 5	<hr/> £183- 5-10

And the Supplies from the Tenth day of March 1779 to the first day of January 1780 are as follows

	Paid by the Soldier	Extra Expense paid by the Town	Total
James Barnes	£9-13- 9	£126-14- 3	£136- 8- 0
Benjamin Phillips	12- 8- 0	164-16- 6	177- 4- 6
Edward Evins	8-17- 9	164- 7- 0	173- 4- 9
	<hr/> £30-19- 6	<hr/> £455-17- 9	<hr/> £486-17- 3

Plymouth January 29th. 1780

SAM^l. EMERSON
JOHN WILLOUGHBY } Selectmen
BENJⁿ GOOLD }

An account of the Supplies of the Families of the Soldiers belonging to Plymouth engaged in the Continental Service from first Day Janry 1780 to the first Day of Janry 1781

The Supply of Edward Evens Family (Items omitted)	326. 3. 0
The Supply of Benjamin Phillips Family do.	365. 4. 0
The Supply of James Barns Family do.	499. 3. 0

The foregoing is a true act. of the Soldiers Families in Plymouth engd in the Continental Service that has been supplied by the Town

Plymouth 12 March 1781 —

SAML EMERSON
JOTHAM CUMMINGS } Selectmen
JAMES HOBART }

To the Committee on Claims for the State of New Hampr

This may Certify that the following persons are Soldiers engaged in the Continental Service for the Town of Plymouth during the war — (viz)

Benjamin Phillips, Dead, Edward Evins } who Inlisted into said Army
James Barns Joseph Hobart } before the Commencement
John Phillips } of the year 1778

Nehemiah Phillips } who Inlisted into said Army or have
Winthrop Fox } been procured since the end of the
Nicholas Hall } year 1777

All said Men engaged in said service for said Town and have been considered as part of its Quoto according to the Acts and Resolves of the General Court. The said Benjamin Phillips we have heard has Joined the Corps of Invileads at or near Philadelphia may be Deceased or otherwise Discharged from said service, which if it is the Case it leaves seven Men being the Towns Quota good in the field —

Joseph Smith belonging to the Town of Plymouth who served the Town of Plaistow three years & has since Inlisted during the War — Also David Nevins Inlisted during the war

Plymouth May 22, 1781 —

JOHN WILLOUGHBY Capt
SAML EMERSON } Selectmen of
RICHD BAYLEY } Plymouth

Boscawin claim some

Immediately preceding the Revolution, Joseph Smith was a resident of Wentworth. His service in the war is mentioned in the former chapters. His family lived in Plymouth a considerable part of the time during the war. The original of the letter of the committee of safety is preserved in the office of the town clerk of Plymouth. The other documents upon this subject are copies from the State archives, and are self-explanatory.

State of New Hampshire,

In Committee of Safety, Exeter Sept. 21, 1781.

To the Selectmen of Plymouth, Gentlemen,

Joseph Smith, a soldier claimed by your town is also claimed by Wentworth Plaistow and Boscawen. You are therefore desired to attend before the Committee of Safety on Tuesday the 5th of October next, that the same may be determined.

By order of the Committee

JOSEPH PEARSON, Depty Sec'y.

To the Committee of Safety for the State of New Hampshire —

May it please your Honors — Joseph Smith, whom we claim in behalf & for the Town of Plymouth, the support of our Claim is by the Depositions herewith presented and the following Reasons, viz: — That the said Smith, in the first Establishment of the Continental Army, engaged for Plaistow for three years, at the expiration of which we conceive he had fulfilled his engagement to Plaistow, his Reinlisting we conceive gives Plaistow no further Title to him as he was free from any town when he Reinlisted and his family in Plymouth and belonging there himself &

this Town is liable to be called upon by his family at any time when they stand in need for support, we conceive no Town has a right to him other than Plymouth. Our having our quota without him does not debar us of him as our Right, we know not how soon we may want a man. — It has been reported that Plaistow has got a Rec^d from him that he is engaged for them during the war, but we believe your Honors will see that, that must be some mistake as his engaging for Plaistow during the war and Inlisting but for three years would be Inconsistent with Reason, — We leave it with your Honors, not doubting that you will do what appears to be just in the affair. — Said Smith was at home in Plymouth on furlow in April, May & C. in 1780. — We have engaged Capt. Benjamin Rogers to wait on you with this as the shortness of the notice & distance of the way makes it inconvenient for us to attend.

From, Gentlemen, Your Humble Servants

SAMUEL EMERSON } Selectmen.
RICHARD BAYLEY }

Plymouth 3^d Oct. 1781

Selectmen of the Town of Plaistow.

Gentlemen — Please to pay Stephen Wells or order Four pounds ten shillings Lawful Money and place the same to the acc^t of my Husband Joseph Smith, who is one of your Towns Quota of Continental Soldiers as so much of his wages received by me, it being for money supplied me by said Wells to the amount of that sum as witness my hand at Plymouth this 30th day of August 1782 —

HANNAH SMITH

Test — Petr Dear Bon — Zebadiah Richardson

PLYMOUTH June 13th 1782 —

To the Selectmen of Plaistow,

Gentlemen please to pay Mr. Stephen Wells seven pounds ten shillings lawful money it being for a Cow & other supplies Receiv^d of him to that amount, which shall answer to you as so much supplied the Family of my Husband, Joseph Smith who is one of your Towns Quota of Continental Soldiers —

HANNAH SMITH

test Stephen Webster Jun. Jacob Draper

June ye 20th 1782 then Recd of the Selectmen of Plaistow in full for the within

Per STEPHEN WELLS

PLYMOUTH March the 8th 1782 —

This may Certify that the Subscriber being the wife of James Barns one of the Continental Soldiers of the Quota of the Town of Plymouth

have Recd of the Selectmen of and in behalf of said Plymouth the sum of twelve pounds lawful money silver in supplies from the last day of December 1780 to the first day of January 1782 being one year —

Test John Rogers

SUBMIT ^{her} X BARNs
mark

PLYMOUTH 25th Decr 1782.

This may Certify that the Subscriber being the wife of James Barnes one of the Continental Soldiers of the Quota of the Town of Plymouth have Receivd of the Selectmen of said Plymouth in behalf of said Town Twelve pounds lawful money silver in supplies from the last day of December 1781 to the first day of January 1783 being one year

Witness Samuel Marsh

SUBMIT ^{her} X BARNs
mark

John Taylor Gilman, Esq. Treas^r of the State of New Hampshire. Sir. please pay to Joseph Senter Esq^r the wages due to me on account of my late husband James Barnes Deceased being late a Continental Soldier of one of the Quota of the Toun of Plymouth and you will oblige, yours &c

SUBMIT ^{her} X BARNs
mark

Plymouth 22^d October 1784

Test Sam^r Emerson.

This may Certify that the Subscriber being the wife of Edward Evins one of the Continental Soldiers of the Quota of the Town of Plymouth did receive of the Selectmen of said Plymouth in behalf of said Town the sum of eight pounds three shillings and one penny lawful money silver in supplies from the first day of January 1780 to the first day of January 1781 being one year deducting out of the same the like sum in Continental Currency (which I lodged) in value according to the scale of depreciation as the first day of August 1780

Plymouth 25th Decr 1782

ELIZABETH EVENS

	Edward Evans [Evins]	Dr
1784 July 3.	To a certificate dld. Mr Joseph Pearson P order	£18 - -
1885 Aug 10.	To a certificate dld. Moses Dow Esq. P order	£12. 18. 8
	Contra	
Wounded —	Vote March 1. 1783	
	By half pay from Jan'y 3. 1783 to July 3. 1784.	£18 - -
	By half pay from July 3. 1784 to July 31. 1785.	
	inclusively	£12. 18. 8

There is due to Edward Evans Eighteen Pounds for half Pay in full
to July 3d 1784 EPHM ROBINSON Paymast

Exeter July 5th 1784
£ 18 —

July 6 — 1784 Received an order on the Treasr in behalf of Edwd
Evans for the above Sum — JOSEPH PEARSON

State of New Hampshire. This certifies that Edward Evans served
as a private in the First New Hampshire Regiment — that he has pro-
duced sufficient Evidence that while in the Service of the United States
he received a wound in his ankle, which being still unhealed renders him
an Invalid — and that we judge him to be thereby entitled to a pension
of twenty shillings per month from 31st July 1786 —

Exeter 2nd Decr 1786 JOSIAH GILMAN Junr } Committee
SAML TENNEY }

PLYMOUTH December 2rd 1786 —

Grafton ss.

Then Edward Evins came before me one of the Justices of the Peace
for the County of Grafton in the State of New Hampshire and made
Oath that he is an Inhabitant of the Town of Plymouth in the County
aforesaid SAML EMERSON Just Peace

November 3rd 1788 —

State of New Hampshire Grafton ss.

Edward Evins came before me one of the Justices of the peace for the
County of Grafton in this State, and made Oath that he was examined
by Doctr Samuel Tenny appointed by said State for that purpose,
obtained a Certificate and that he now lives in the Town of Plymouth
in the County of Grafton aforesaid

SAML EMERSON Just Peace

State of } To the Honb^{le} the Senate & House of Representatives
New Hampshire } of said State in general Court convened —

Humbly shows David Webster of Plymouth in the County of Grafton
Esq & Sheriff of said County. That he has been at great expense in
going to the several Towns in the County of Grafton, with the Extents
that have issued against the same, for the poor payment of Taxes, vz the
Extents issued in June A D 1782. Feby 1782 March 1783 & August
1783. And that your Petitioner was unable to serve the same by reason
of there being no Selectmen within the Towns, against which said Extents
issued. Wherefore he humbly prays your Honours would take his case
into your wise consideration: & grant him such recompense for his time

& services afores^d as your Honours shall think sufficient — And you Petitioner will ever pray &c^a —

DAVID WEBSTER —

Concord October 26th 1785 —

State of }
Newhamps^r } In the House of Representatives Nov^r 3d 1785

The Committee on the petition & account of Col^o David Webster, Reported, that Twenty pound be allowed the s^d Col^o Webster in full of his account, & that the Treasurer be directed to add to the Taxes of the next year on those towns (mentioned in Col^o Websters petition who were incorporated at the time the Extents issued,) their proportion of the abovesaid sum of Twenty pounds —

Sign'd M. Thornton for the Committee which report being read & considered, Voted, that it be receiv'd & accepted — & that the President give order accordingly —

Sent up for Concurrence

JNO SULLIVAN Speaker

In Senate the same day read & concurred

J PEARSON dep Secy

Warn^t granted

To his Excellency the President and the Honble the Council of the State of New Hampshire

The Petition of the subscribers in the County of Grafton — humbly Sheweth

That whereas Coll David Webster of Plymouth was appointed Sheriff for said County in a critical Period of political affairs, & has executed said office, with Fidelity to his Country, & to this State in particular, — as well as to very general approbation of the Inhabitants of said County of Grafton: — that by the disposition of his affairs to serve the public in this capacity it would be detrimental to his interest, & unless the public good plainly pointed the preference of some other to succeed him it would appear implicit inattention to the merit of said Webster's good behavior, to be neglected now: — that it would tend to embarrass the settlement of affairs committed to him, & in part executed, & make such additional Cost, under which the County already groans, to have said affairs committed to another for further execution: — that it is very improbable if any other, not so firmly attached to the American Cause should be appointed to succeed him, that it would give so general satisfaction as said Webster has done —

We therefore pray your Excellency & Honors that said David Webster may be appointed Sheriff for said County of Grafton, & we shall as in duty bound ever pray &c

January 28th 1785 —

Moses Baker	Abel Willey	William Baker
Jabez Church	Jared Church	Timothy Ingalls
Gershom Burbank	John Clark	John Foss
Abel Willey	Elias Cheney	William Elliot
John Southmayd	Oliver Tayler	Francis Worcester
Nathaniel Tupper	Moody Cook	Josiah Brown
Samuel Holmes	Jonah Chapman	Samuel Stearns Junr
Edmund Marsh	Jonathan Cone	Josiah Brown Jr
William Page Junr	Cutting Cook	J. Robbins
John Holmes	Hobart Spencer	Carr Huse
Uriah Foss		

XIV. COUNTY RELATIONS.

IN accordance with the act of 1769 the province of New Hampshire was divided into five counties — Rockingham, Hillsborough, Cheshire, Strafford, and Grafton. The three counties first named were organized in 1771, and county officers were then appointed. The counties of Strafford and Grafton were more sparsely settled, and by the terms of the act the two counties were to constitute a part of Rockingham County until the governor, with the advice of the council, should declare them competent to assume county organization. Already the premonitory voices of the Revolution had reached the attentive ear of the governor. The organization of the two counties gave him an enlarged prerogative in official patronage. Ever pleased in rewarding his friends, he also seized an opportunity of making official overtures to a few dissatisfied men. The organization of Strafford and Grafton counties was not long delayed. May 28, 1772, the governor issued the following message to the council and the assembly: "I recommend to your consideration the previous measures necessary to be enacted toward Enabling the Counties of Strafford & Grafton in this Province to Exercise & enjoy County Privileges."

A joint committee of the council and assembly was appointed the same day, and eight months later the act was passed and approved.

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii Magnæ Britaniæ Franciæ & Hiberniæ, Decimo Tertio.

An Act for fixing the Times & Places for holding the Courts in the Countys of Strafford & Grafton.

Whereas by the Act for Dividing this Province into Counties the Countys of Strafford & Grafton were to be counted & taken as Parts & members of the County of Rockingham until the Governour & Council should declare them respectively sufficient for the Exercize of their Respective Jurisdiction — And Whereas the Governour by & with the advice & Consent of his Majestys Council of this Province has declared the Said Countys Sufficient for the exercize of Said Jurisdiction — Therefore

Be it enacted by the Governour Council and Assembly That the Several Courts in the County of Straford shall be held as follows Viz. A Court of General Sessions of the Peace on the Second Tuesdays of January July & October at Dover annually & an Inferiour Court of Comon Pleas on the first Thursdays next following the Second Tuesdays of January July & October at the Same Place Annually & one Court of General Sessions of the Peace on the Second Tuesday of April Shall be held at Durham in s^d County Annually And one Inferiour Court of Comon Pleas on the first Thursday next following the Second Tuesday of April At Durham Annually and A Superiour Court of Judicature be held at Dover aforeSaid on the last Tuesdays of May annually this Regulation shall Continue for the Term of Seven Years and after that Time the s^d Superiour Court to be held at Dover & Wolfborough alternately and the Said Courts of General Sessions of the Peace & the Said Inferiour Courts of July & October to be held at Wolfborough.

And be it further Enacted that the Several Courts in the County of Grafton shall be held as follows (Viz.) four Courts of General Sessions of the Peace on the third Tuesdays of January April July & October Annually & four Inferiour Courts of Comon Pleas on the first Thursdays next following the third Tuesday of January April July & October annually at that the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace & Courts of Comon Pleas of October & April shall be held at Haverhill & those of January & July Shall be held at Plymouth in Said County and that there be held in Said County annually one Superior Court of Judicature on the Second Tuesday in June at Haverhil & Plymoth Alternatly And whereas it will Require Some Time after the Passing this Act to appoint & comission the Proper Officers to build Prisons Court Houses & other Necessary Edifices within Said Countys for the Due & Proper Exercize of the Jurisdictions aforeSaid therefor this Act shall be Susspended for the Term of four Months and all Writts & Processes to be Issued shall be Conformed to the Directions of this Act and notwithstanding the suspension of the Operation of this Act the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in s^d Countys may Set and Act for the Purposes Only of

Raising Money to build Court Houses Prisons & other necessary Publick Buildings Imediatly

Province of } In the House of Representatives Feb^y 3^d 1773 this Bill
New Hamp^e } having been Read three Times Voted that it Pass to
be Enacted

J WENTWORTH Speaker

In Council Feb^y 5 1773 This Bill was Read a Third
Time & Passed to be Enacted

THEODORE ATKINSON Sec^y

Consented

J WENTWORTH

Recorded According to the Original Act under the Province Seal

Attest

THEODORE ATKINSON Sec^y

The division of the county into two judicial districts and the shire towns were determined by the provincial government and expressed in the act. In the discussion upon this subject, which preceded the act, it was generally conceded one-half of the courts should be held at Plymouth, and the town of Plymouth, Sept. 22, 1772, paid David Hobart and David Webster "for time and expense going to Portsmouth on county affairs." At the same time the western towns of the county were not listless or indifferent. The petition of Alexander Phelps and Israel Morey, representing Lyme and Orford, prayed "that one half of the Courts may be held in one or the other of said towns." John Hurd, representing the desires of Haverhill, Bath, and Lisbon, was instructed to petition for one-half of the courts at Haverhill. His petition is on file in the State archives:—

Province of } To His Excellency John Wentworth Esq^r Governor &
New Hampsh. } Commander in Chief of s^d Province—The Honble
His Majesty's Council and the Honble House of Rep-
resentatives in General Court assembled —

The Memorial of John Hurd Agent for & in behalf of the Propriety of the Townships Haverhill Bath & Gunthwaite within the Bound of the County of Grafton — humbly sheweth —

That whereas tis expected the said County of Grafton is now at this sessions of the General Court to be established & to assume the Exercise of its County Priviledges — And as the places for holding the Courts is of very important Consequence to the present Settlement of that part

of the Country & its future Weal — Your Memorialist humbly prays Your Excellency & Honors, with the Honble House of Representatives, to take it into Your Consideration, whither the Town of Haverhill may not be the most suitable place for the present purpose, it being not only pleasantly & conveniently situated on Connecticut River & nearly Central to all the Settlements in the County, but most forward in their Agriculture & Improvements — And by the large Quantities of Grain & provisions yearly produced there, and at Newbury, on the Opposite side of the River, most capable of supplying not only the Demand for all the new settling Towns, as has been the Case for several Years past, but any Courts that may be held there, with their necessary Attendants far beyond what can be done in any other of those Infant Settlements — And if any preference is to be given to Industry & Resolution, the Town of Haverhill really merits it — the Inhabitants of w^{ch} have undergone, in first exploring y^e Country, cutting out New Roads, & prosecuting their settlements, the greatest Difficultys & Hardships — Moreover the holding the said Courts so far up the River may & indeed must be an Inducement to the Settlers to open & keep good all their Roads leading thereto — the River Road & late enacted Province Road so calld especialy — of Course will it benefit the Whole Country & this Capital Portsmouth in particular by enabling the back Settlers at an easy Expense to transport all their spare produce to this Market —

On these Considerations Your Memorialist humbly prays that the said Town of Haverhill may be appointed the first Shire Town in the County of Grafton for at least Three Years — that both Inferior & Superior Courts may be there held for that Term of time — And hereafter with such Alteration as to Your Excellency, Y^r Honors & the Honble House of Representatives in their great Wisdom may seem meet — And Y^r Memorialist as in Duty bound will ever pray, &c &c —

J HURD

Portsmouth 26th May 1772 —

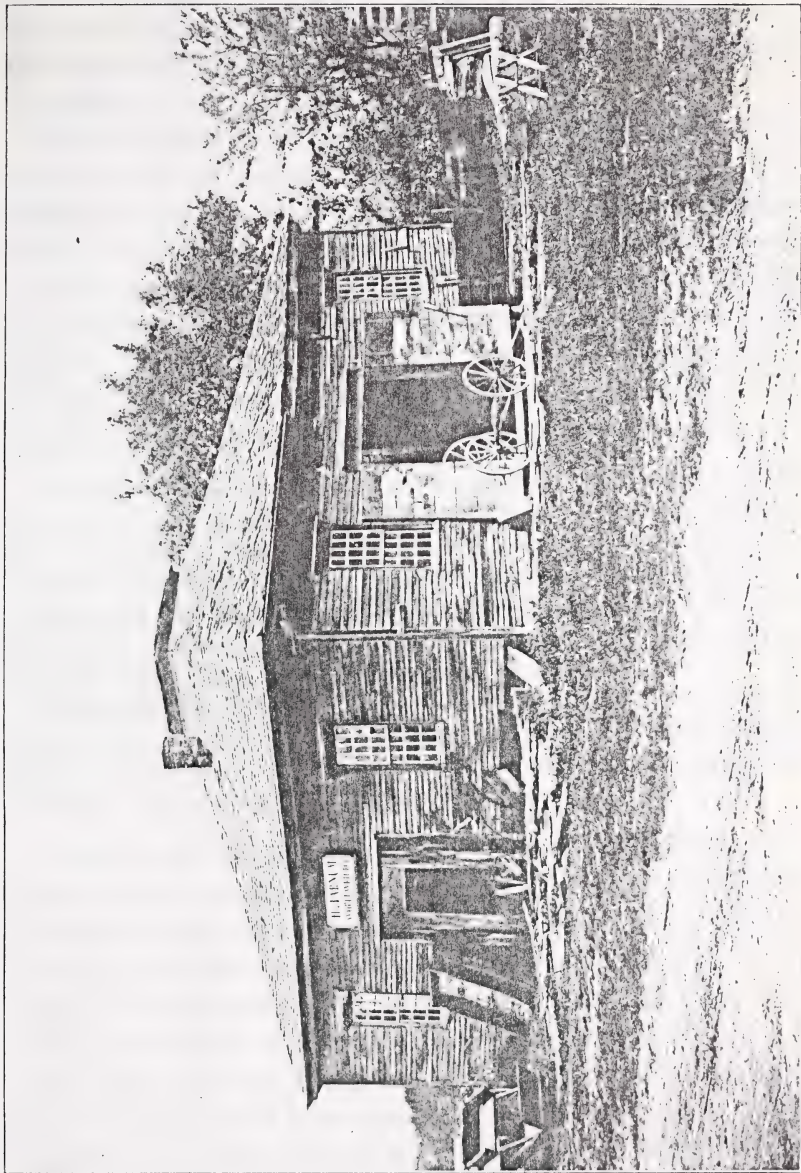
In 1773, when the county was organized, the only towns in the new county containing over three hundred inhabitants were Haverhill, 387; Plymouth, 345; and Hanover, 342. From a later standpoint these were small towns, but at that date they were the principal towns in northern New Hampshire. To complete the organization of the county, Governor Wentworth promptly appointed the county officers. May 18, 1773, he appointed John Hurd of Haverhill chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and Moses Little, Asa Porter of Haverhill, and Bezaleel Wood-

ward of Hanover associate justices. Moses Little, "by reason of his other business out of this province," declined, and July 7, 1773, David Hobart of Plymouth was appointed an associate justice. William Simpson of Orford was appointed sheriff and immediately removed to this town, where he resided six years. John Fenton was the Judge of Probate and Clerk of the Courts. The Register of Probate was Jonathan Mitchell Sewall of Portsmouth. He soon resigned, and Moses Dow of Plymouth was appointed early in 1774. The county treasurer was John Hurd. At this date registers of deeds were appointed for one year, ending in May, and a committee was appointed in each county to have the custody of the records in the event of the death or disability of the register or recorder. Feb. 6, 1773, John Hurd was appointed to serve until May, and the committee were Alexander Phelps, David Hobart, and Charles Johnston. In May Mr. Hurd was appointed for the ensuing year, and the committee were Bezaleel Woodward, David Hobart, and Charles Johnston.

In the original division of the province into counties, Campton and Holderness were in Strafford County until 1782, and Conway was in Grafton County until 1778.

The Court of Sessions, for many years an extinct court, was a complex and consequential wheel to the judicial chariot of former times. It was composed of the justices of the peace of the county, and its powers were judicial and prudential. It devolved upon this court to exercise full power in the construction of courthouses and jails. At a session, of which the record is lost, this court appointed Samuel Livermore, and probably two others, a commission to build a courthouse in Plymouth. At a session of the court convened at Haverhill, April 23, 1774, the commission for building the courthouse and jail at Plymouth "were empowered to agree with David Webster for the hire of his dwelling house and the temporary goal adjoining upon the best terms they can until the next General Sessions."

"The Sheriff came into Court and protested against the sufficiency of the temporary goal at Plymouth."



Old Courthouse, 1860

At the session convened July 20, 1774, it was "Voted that the sheriff be ordered to notify the selectmen of Plymouth and Haverhill that it is expected they erect stocks and whipping posts in their respective towns forthwith near their respective court houses and goals."

David Webster lived on the site of the Pemigewasset house, and the site first selected for the courthouse was east of Main Street and very near his dwelling-house. The structure was raised before July, 1774. For some reason David Webster preferred another location for the county buildings and stocks and whipping-post, and he offered to present the county two acres of land on the opposite side of Main Street, and the frame was removed to the west side of that street. In regard to the change of site of the first courthouse the action of the court of sessions follows:—

At the session July 21, 1774, voted that David Webster be allowed to remove the frame of the court house of Plymouth from the spot where it now stands to and upon the hill opposite, he giving a deed to the County of that tract of land being two acres more or less, and removing and erecting said frame immediately at his own expense and in as good order and condition as it now stands. Upon due performance of which said Webster to have his former deed cancelled.

Voted that the committee empowered by a former vote to erect the court house and goal in Plymouth be also empowered to take a sufficient deed for the above two acres of land, more or less, of Major David Webster and to cancell his former deed.

Accordingly, the frame of the courthouse was removed westerly across Main Street to near the corner of Russell and Pleasant streets, and east of the ledge west of the house of the late John Mudgett, and there it remained and in continued use nearly fifty years. It was completed in the autumn of 1774, and one Tasker was paid for labor and materials by a draft on John Hurd, county treasurer, dated Oct. 29, 1774. The building was 34 by 34 feet on the ground, and from the centre of the roof arose a stately cupola out of proportion to the diminutive size of the structure. The completion of the first courthouse was an event in the annals of Plymouth. It was built by the fathers and dedicated to an

honored use. It was an expression of their love of justice and their respect for the court. The Revolution followed, and under a reformed government the courthouse became the temple of an independent judicial system and the emblem of a better system of laws and government.

A new and enlarged courthouse was built in 1823. The goddess with blinded eyes and impartial scales was seated upon a more pretentious throne. The old courthouse was deserted. The golden memories of former years were ruthlessly brushed aside and the building was sold and put to an ignoble use. The cupola, once the pride of Plymouth, was destroyed, and the first courthouse was removed to the easterly side of South Main Street, immediately south of the house formerly of William R. Park. There it was used as a wheelwright shop, and later it was closed and suffered to remain in unawakened paralysis many years. The honor of the restoration of this memorable building, and its rededication to a fitting use, is due to Henry W. Blair. In 1876, a year of centennial memories, he purchased it and removed it to a convenient location. At the same time he restored it, except the cupola, to its original form, and presented it to the Young Ladies Library Association. The restoration of this honored landmark of Plymouth was a commendable and thoughtful benefaction. In the willing gratitude of the present and of future generations Senator Blair will reap a rich and merited reward.

The old courthouse, a memorial of the past and present, is preserved. It has survived several removals, and it has experienced as many changes. It has been a temple of justice, the shelter of a humble industry, and the home of a library. At all times and under all conditions it has been an instructive witness of the simple manners and the rugged character of the men who built it. Enter, the spirit of the fathers will meet you at the door. The inner temple is a panorama of mingled personalities and is eloquent with the voices of living memories. The walls still echo the spoken words of able men who debated principles and rendered decisions during four decades succeeding the Revolution.

Here David Webster for many years opened court in solemn form. Here upon the bench in superior court sat the Livermores, Simeon Olcott, Jeremiah Smith, Josiah Bartlett, John Dudley, Paine Wingate, Caleb Ellis, and Levi Woodbury; and among the several judges of the inferior court were Samuel Emerson and the Woodwards. Enter, rejoicing that this historic building, for many years unsuitable for the dignified purpose for which it was erected, is now dedicated to the mission of literature and knowledge and is speaking to us in the language of books and memories. Enter reverently, the men who made it what it is, a shrine of Plymouth, are dead.

The Court of Sessions which, in 1820, succeeded the Court of Common Pleas, exercised a general control in county affairs. The records of the court directing the building of the second courthouse in Plymouth follow:—

State of New Hampshire.

Grafton ss.

At the Court of Sessions holden by adjournment at Haverhill on the first Thursday being the third day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two.

Present

	Daniel Blaisdell	Chief Justice
The Honble	Hugh Ramsay	Associate Justices
	Abel Merrill	
	Samuel Hutchins	
	Samuel Burns	

It is ordered by this Court that the Clerk publish the following notice by causing copies of the same to be posted up in three places in Plymouth, to wit:

The Justices of the Court of Sessions for the County of Grafton will receive proposals at Plymouth on the fourteenth day of November next at ten o'clock in the forenoon for the erecting and completing a building for a court house in Plymouth in said county. The same to be erected on land, the title to which not less than one acre to be vested in the County of Grafton, of the following description. The building to be

sixty feet long and forty-five feet wide, with walls sixteen feet high from the underpinning. The foundation to be of stone and sunk so far below the surface of the ground as that the same shall be four feet underground when the earth is levelled, with two tier of hewed granite stone, each not less than fifteen inches in width for underpinning laid with broken joints in a workmanlike manner; with a flight of granite stone steps with risers on three sides with a top stone seven feet long and four feet wide. The superstructure to be of good well burnt bricks laid in good lime mortar one foot thick and laid in a workmanlike manner, the threshold to the door and the window caps and stools to be hewed stone. An entrance way or door four feet wide and seven feet two inches high with double folding doors to be in the front end of the building. Four windows to be placed at a suitable height and place on each side of the building, two at the front & three at the back end, each window to contain 24 squares of crown glass 15 by 11 inches with a fan light over the outer door. The court room to occupy the whole width of the building and forty eight feet of the length from the back end and to be finished in the style and form of the court room at Haverhill with an arched ceiling or roof. The remaining part of the building to be divided from the court room, by a brick wall, and to be divided into two stories, with a passage way or entry ten feet wide from the front door to open by an inner door into the court room, the remaining part of the lower story to be finished into two rooms with suitable benches for the accommodation of Petit Jurors, and the upper story to be finished in one room in a suitable manner to accommodate a Grand Jury, with a suitable flight of stairs to ascend to the same, with a railing round the opening in the upper floor formed by the stair case, with a door at the bottom of the stair case and a door to each Jury room below.

The roof to be of a square or barn form, well supported in the frame and well boarded and shingled, with a window in the front gable end. Two small chimnies, one resting on the brick partition wall & the other on a flat perforated stone to admit a stove pipe, lying on the plates, to be carried through the roof at the ridge pole at 12 feet distant from each end of the building.

The walls and ceilings of all the rooms to be plaistered and white-washed, and all the wood work (shingles and floors excepted) well painted. The doors to be all hung with suitable butts with suitable handles and latches and all with good locks and keys.

The whole to be completed by the first day of September next.

The courthouse was erected on the site of the present courthouse and on land purchased of William Webster. The contractors were

William Webster and David Moor Russell. The building was completed in the summer and early autumn of 1823. The report of Arthur Livermore, concerning the quality of the work of the contractors, dated Nov. 17, 1823, follows:—

Pursuant to the trust imposed on me by the Honorable Court of Sessions for the county of Grafton, I have inspected the new court house at Plymouth and do certify that the contract on the part of Messrs Webster and Russell has been faithfully performed according to the spirit thereof and in every instance wherein there is any deviation from the letter of the agreement the same has been as well or better for the public.

ARTHUR LIVERMORE.

The third courthouse, standing on the site of the second, was constructed in accordance with a vote of the county convention in 1889. The contractor was Emerson of Campton.

THE TRIAL OF JOSIAH BURNHAM.

In 1805 there was a schoolmaster and a surveyor living in Warren; his name was Josiah Burnham. At the same time Joseph Starkweather was tilling the fertile fields of Haverhill, and Russell Freeman, formerly a merchant of Hanover, was beset by many debts and was embarrassed by many suits, instigated by honest but unfortunate creditors. Mr. Freeman was a gentleman of recognized ability, having been appointed to positions of trust, but was unfortunate in business. In December of the same year, 1805, Burnham, Starkweather, and Freeman were confined in the jail at Haverhill. Starkweather and Freeman were committed for debt, and Burnham for a more serious offence. The newspapers of the time allege that he was arrested for forgery, and Judge George W. Nesmith, in an interesting article in the Granite Monthly, asserts that he was arrested for a crime of which there was a corespondent. If Josiah Burnham had governed his temper there would have been no murder trial the following May in Plymouth. The following account of the tragedy in the jail appeared in the New Hampshire Gazette, Dec. 31, 1805:—

Horrid Deed!!

The following unprecedented affair happened at the gaol in Haverhill, in the county of Grafton. We cannot better give the particulars of this horrid transaction than by the following extract of a letter from a gentleman of respectability in that quarter:—

“On the morning of the 18th instant, Russell Freeman, Esquire, and Captain Starkweather, being confined in the same room in the prison at Haverhill with Josiah Burnham, a person confined for forgery—owing to some misunderstanding that had existed between the prisoners, Burnham in cool blood drew his knife, which was a long one which he carried in a sheath, and taking advantage of Starkweather’s absence in another part of the room, he inhumanly stabbed Freeman in the bowels, which immediately began to gush out. At the noise occasioned by this, Starkweather endeavored to come to the assistance of his friend Freeman, when, horrid to relate, Burnham made a pass at him and stabbed him in his side, and then endeavored to cut his throat, and the knife entered in by his collar bone. Burnham, after this, made a fresh attack on Starkweather, and stabbed him four times more—by this time he had grown so weak that the monster left him and flew at Freeman, who all this time was sitting holding his bowels in his hand, and stabbed him three times more. This abandoned wretch then attempted to take his own life, but did not succeed. By this time the persons in the house were alarmed and came to the gaol door, and, after considerable exertion, entered and secured the murderer.—Freeman lived about three hours, and Starkweather about two from the time the assistants entered the prison. Our informant mentions that Burnham appeared in good spirits, and said he had done God’s service.” [Dover Sun.]

The grand jury, at the May term holden in Plymouth, 1806, found two indictments: one for killing Freeman and one for killing Starkweather. Burnham was tried on the Starkweather indictment. The grand jurors from Plymouth were Enoch Ward and James Harvell. In the indictments it is alleged that the murders were committed Dec. 17, 1805, and that the victims died the following day.

At the same term of the Superior Court of Judicature, Chief Justice Jeremiah Smith presiding, May, 1806, the trial ensued. The jurors were: David Atwood, Alexandria; Daniel Pingree, Bridgewater; Benjamin Boardman, Bridgewater; Samuel Noyes,

Campton; David Gibson, Wentworth; William Powers, Groton; Ebenezer Kendall, Hebron; William Cox, Holderness; Timothy Sargent, New Chester; Jonathan Cummings, Plymouth; and John Palmer, Wentworth. The attorneys for the State were George Sullivan, attorney-general, and Benjamin J. Gilbert of Hanover, county solicitor. Alden Sprague of Haverhill and Daniel Webster, then of Boscawen, were assigned by the court as counsel for Burnham, the defendant. In reference to this trial Judge Nesmith, in the *Granite Monthly*, records that Daniel Webster informed him that "Burnham had no witnesses. He could not bring past good character to his aid, nor could we urge the plea of insanity in his behalf. At this stage of the case Mr. Sprague, the senior counsel, declined to argue in defence of Burnham, and proposed to submit the case to the tender mercies of the court. I interfered with this proposition and claimed the privilege to present my views of the case. I made my first and the only solitary argument of my whole life against capital punishment; and the proper time for a lawyer to urge this defence is when he is young and has no matters of fact or law upon which he can found a better defence."

The *New Hampshire Gazette*, June 10, 1806, contains the following account of the trial:—

At the last term of the Superior Court in the county of Grafton, two bills of indictment were found against Josiah Burnham; one for the murder of Joseph Starkweather, Jr., and the other for the murder of Russel Freeman, Esq. — On Monday, the 2d instant, he was brought to trial on the first indictment. The Attorney General discharged the painful duties of his office with fidelity and ability, and the counsel for the prisoner managed his defence with great ingenuity. The evidence was too clear and explicit to admit of doubts. — The jury retired, and after a short consultation agreed that the prisoner was guilty. The Chief Justice, on Tuesday morning, in a solemn and impressive manner, pronounced against the prisoner the awful sentence of the law, in which he stated the aggravations of his offence, the candid and impartial trial which had been granted him, and the clearness of the proof against him, and after recommending to him sincere repentance for his sins and a firm reliance on his Saviour for mercy, condemned him to death.

The prisoner appeared affected with the heinousness of his offence, and regretted that he had not prevented the trouble and expense of a public trial by pleading guilty.

Tuesday the 15th day of July next is the time appointed for his execution.

As stated by the Gazette, Burnham was sentenced to be hanged on the fifteenth day of July. Gov. John Langdon granted a reprieve of four weeks. Burnham was executed at Haverhill, Aug. 12, 1806.

Except the sheriff and two of the grand and one of the petit jurymen, this memorable trial did not involve Plymouth people, but it occurred in the old courthouse, and here, in the second year of his professional career, Daniel Webster made a plea for the defendant. It has been current in Plymouth many years that this was Webster's first plea in court.

Daniel Webster was admitted to the bar in Boston in March, 1805, and immediately opened an office in Boscawen, then a town in Hillsborough County. Ebenezer Webster, the father of Daniel, was one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, and the county seats were at Amherst and Hopkinton. At the September term, 1805, at Hopkinton, Daniel Webster entered twenty-two cases, of which two were jury cases, and were tried at this term. In the well-known Blatchford letter, written by Webster at Franklin, May 3, 1846, he states that his first speech at the bar was made in 1805, and that his father heard him. Judge Ebenezer Webster, the father, died in April, 1806, several weeks before the Burnham trial at Plymouth. In Curtis' *Life of Daniel Webster* the author erroneously states that the Burnham trial was in 1805, and referring to other causes tried by Webster in 1805 he expresses an inability "to determine which of them is to be regarded as his first cause." If Curtis had written with a knowledge that the plea of Webster at Plymouth was made in 1806, and after the death of Judge Ebenezer Webster, his statements and conclusions would have been changed. It is evident that the defence of Burnham at Plymouth was not the first plea made by Daniel Webster in the courts of New Hampshire.

XV. CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.

THE history of the constitution and the proceedings of the constitutional conventions of a State present a wide field of investigation and many comprehensive topics for discussion, but the history of a town permits only a narrative of the action and the attitude of a single community.

It has been truthfully stated that the temporary constitution which was in force from January, 1776, to June, 1784, became operative through the action of a representative body and without submission to the people. This statement is not complete without mention of the call and the comprehensive character of the precepts issued for the election of representatives to the fifth provincial congress. The legislature of 1776 was practically instructed by the people to adopt a plan of government. On account of the exigencies of the time, and realizing that some measure of irregularity is incident to a revolution, the people cheerfully waived the right or privilege of a voice in the premises. In contrast with many in Grafton County and a majority in several towns, the people of Plymouth were satisfied with the constitution and the administration organized under its provisions. During the years of the Revolution the town was loyal to the Exeter government, and no expression of dissatisfaction is found in any local or State record. In January, 1776, when the temporary constitution was adopted, New Hampshire was neither a colony nor a State. It was a territory, joining with other territories in revolution. The future was uncertain, and in a most significant manner the people applied the word "temporary" to their statutes and organic law. Two years later the future was more propitious, and attention

was given to an enlargement of the foundations of their governmental structure. Experimental measures were abandoned. With confidence in the future, the legislature called a convention "to be a free representation of all the people," not to revise the existing constitution, but "to form a permanent plan or system for the future government of this State." To this convention, which was called to assemble at Concord, June 10, 1778, every town was privileged to send a delegate, and any two or more adjoining towns were permitted to unite in the choice of a delegate. At a town meeting duly called and assembled, May 12, 1778, Francis Worcester was chosen a delegate to represent this town. Mr. Worcester and Moses Baker of Campton probably were the only delegates from Grafton County. Lyon's Register, 1852, states that Obadiah Clement of Warren probably was a member of the convention.

The journal of the convention is not preserved, but it is assumed that Mr. Worcester approved a majority of the provisions adopted by the convention. The proposed constitution was submitted to the people in June, 1779, and town meetings were generally held in July and August. Aug. 23, 1779, Plymouth voted "not to accept the plan of government by every one present which was forty four." Hampton, Chester, Amherst, Pembroke, Temple, and New Ipswich almost unanimously approved; Concord was evenly divided, and the towns in the western part of the State were nearly unanimous in an expression of disapproval. It required a three-fourths vote to adopt the instrument, and it was rejected. In March, 1781, proceedings were inaugurated which terminated in the adoption of the constitution of 1784. The convention convened at Concord on the first Tuesday of June, 1781, and was continued by adjournments until a constitution was adopted. As in the preceding convention, every town was allowed one or more delegates, and small towns were permitted to join in the election and share in the expense of a delegate.

The voters of Plymouth assembled in town meeting May 8, 1781, "to elect one or more persons to represent them in the con-

vention." The meeting was adjourned to May 28 and to June 4, when it was voted not to choose a delegate to the convention.

The convention submitted the first draft of a constitution for the approval of the people in the autumn of 1781. A town meeting assembled in Plymouth, Dec. 27, 1781. The proposed constitution was referred to a committee "to consider the same and remark thereon." The committee were Samuel Emerson, Benjamin Goold, Francis Worcester, Stephen Webster, James Brown, William George, and Noah Worcester. The meeting adjourned to meet at the house of Lieut. James Brown, Jan. 3, 1782.

At the adjourned meeting the town was not ready for a final vote upon the subject, and to the committee formerly chosen Jonathan Robbins, David Webster, Richard Bayley, and John Willoughby were added, and then the men of Plymouth adjourned to meet Jan. 15, 1782, at the house of Samuel Emerson. At this meeting the committee made a report which was unanimously adopted by the voters of Plymouth. It is known that the report approved many of the provisions of the proposed constitution, but objected to others; but a copy of the report is not at hand. The deliberate action of the town is worthy of note and commendation. In the meantime the constitution had been rejected by the people of the State, and a new session of the convention had been called. At the same meeting the town of Plymouth voted to send a delegate to the future sessions of the convention, and chose Francis Worcester. Another town meeting was called in May, at which Samuel Emerson was elected a delegate "in addition to Francis Worcester who is already chosen." Thus it appears that Plymouth was not represented in the session of the convention which formulated the first draft of a constitution, but was represented by two delegates in the subsequent sessions.

The second draft of the constitution was submitted in August, 1782, and was rejected. A town meeting was called, and the printed copy was referred to a committee who were instructed to report at an adjourned meeting. The names of the committee

are not known, but a copy of the report is found in the town archives.

The first and second drafts of the proposed constitution contained the following provision:—

There shall be a supreme executive Magistrate who shall be styled the Governor of the State of New Hampshire and whose title shall be His Excellency.

In resistance to the oppressions of the provincial government, the people of New Hampshire had borne the grievous burdens of the Revolution. They had been successful in war, and were zealous in the preservation of the liberty their valor had won. To them the name of governor was a synonym of oppression, and in the abstract they were opposed to the delegation of executive powers to a single individual. The report of the committee to whom the second draft of the constitution was referred contains the following expression of opinion:—

¶ That after having carefully and deliberately examined the same we approve of that part called the Bill of Rights but to the other part called the Form of Government we make the following objections with the reasons thereof

1 That the words Protestant Religion be expunged from the said Constitution in every part where it is mentioned as a qualification and that no person shall be disqualified for any station whatsoever on account of his religious sentiments as that appears to be no reason why he should not be a good subject to the State.

2 That the Qualifications of Senators being within this State be three years instead of seven years, as that appears longer than is necessary to be acquainted with the dispositions and circumstances of persons and which also may deprive the community of many abilities of mankind.

3 That there be no governor and council in the Constitution, and that every part, sentence or word treating of or mentioning the governor or council or the governor and council be expunged from the Constitution; that there be no delegation of power known in the Constitution to any such person or body as governor or governor and council.

For we apprehend that when by delegation the power of the people is drawn out to a proper degree, it is sufficient to enliven and set in motion every part of this political body in the best order and with alacrity; yet if the same power is by delegation drawn to an extreme, it might destroy

every part of the Constitution or if by arbitrary ambition of power, such extreme should be exceeded it might terminate in monarchy.

Therefore we humbly conceive it safest to delegate and deposit the supreme executive power, now naturally in the people, in a Senate and House of Representatives and that the Senate and House of Representatives have all and every the powers and authority mentioned in said proposed form of government to be vested in the Governor or Governor and Council and if in recess of the General Court to a Committee of Safety.

The question being put whether said proposed Constitution be accepted with the foregoing exceptions alterations and amendments and whether the parts not objected to be accepted and it passed in the affirmative.

The temporary constitution, by its terms, was operative only during the war. If peace was declared before another constitution was adopted, New Hampshire would be left without organic law or government. To provide against such a dilemma, the general court desired the towns to vote upon a proposition to continue the temporary constitution in force until June 10, 1784.

The town of Plymouth, March 11, 1783, voted unanimously:—

That the present plan of government be lengthened out to the tenth day of June 1784, provided a permanent plan of government for the state should not be established antecedent to said date.

The third draft of a constitution was submitted to the people in the summer of 1783. The word "governor," to which considerable objection had been made, was now eliminated, and the chief executive was styled president, and was required to preside in the senate. It was approved by the people, and declared to be the civil constitution of the State of New Hampshire, to take place on the first Wednesday of June, 1784.

The final vote of Plymouth on the adoption of the constitution has not been discovered, but at a meeting in April, 1783, the town reaffirmed the objections made to the second draft, and ordered that a new copy of the same be sent to the convention when it reassembled in June.

The framing and adoption of constitutions was the necessary

work of a new government. About midway between the conventions for the creation and the first convention for the amendment of the State constitution was the convention for the approval or rejection by New Hampshire of the Federal constitution. In the convention called for this purpose the plan of representation was the same as then existed in the house of representatives. Plymouth and the near-by towns were represented as follows: Plymouth, Rumney, and Wentworth by Francis Worcester; Holderness, Campton, and Thornton by Samuel Livermore; and New Chester, Alexandria, and Cockermouth by Thomas Crawford.

It was the province of the earlier conventions to formulate a constitution for submission to the people. This convention was a body of representatives authorized to approve or reject a constitution already framed. Amendments if adopted were advisory, and the only vital issue was a consent or refusal to ratify. On the main issue the convention was quite evenly divided, and the debate was animated and earnest. On the fourth day of an adjourned session the Federal constitution was ratified by New Hampshire by a vote of 57 to 47. The eleven members from Grafton County, except Joseph Hutchins of Haverhill, voted for ratification. The journal of the convention is printed in Volume X, State Papers, and for an interesting story of the proceedings, see *The New Hampshire Federal Convention*, by Joseph B. Walker of Concord.

In response to precepts issued for the election of delegates, a convention to revise the constitution assembled in Concord the first Wednesday in September, 1791, of which Samuel Livermore of Holderness was the president. Plymouth and Rumney then constituted a representative district. The delegate was Dr. John Rogers of this town. A journal of the convention is found in Volume X, State Papers. Dr. Rogers voted in the affirmative, and in a minority upon the propositions to increase the number of senators and to eliminate the words "Shall be of the Protestant religion." He voted with the majority in striking out the provisions requiring the chief executive to preside in the senate and to substitute the name of governor for president of the State. The

amended constitution was twice submitted. The vote of Plymouth on the second submission was eleven for adoption and fifteen against.

The constitution of 1783, amended 1792, was the fundamental law of the State until the amendment of 1851. At frequent intervals the people were given an opportunity to order the calling of a convention for revision and continued for many years to vote decisively against the proposition. The following are the dates of the act submitting the question of calling a convention, the date of the town meeting in Plymouth, and the vote of the town:—

December 13, 1799	March 10, 1800	Yes	0	No	94
June 11, 1806	March 10, 1806	Yes	0	No	83
June 24, 1813	March 8, 1814	Yes	1	No	58
December 11, 1820	March 13, 1821	Yes	34	No	20
January 5, 1833	March 12, 1833	Yes	34	No	49
July 6, 1833	March 11, 1834	Yes	41	No	78
July 1, 1837	March 13, 1838	Yes	75	No	85
June 19, 1844	November 4, 1844	Yes	39	No	114
July 10, 1846	March 9, 1847	Yes	54	No	2
July 7, 1849	March 12, 1850	Yes	158	No	58

In March, 1850, for the first time in many years, the State voted in the affirmative. There were 28,877 votes for and 14,482 against calling a convention. The convention assembled and organized at Concord, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 1850, with Franklin Pierce, president, and Thomas J. Whipple, secretary. Rev. William Nelson was the delegate from Plymouth, serving with credit to himself and honor to the town. Fifteen amendments were submitted for approval or rejection by the people. The vote upon the proposed amendments was taken March 11, 1851. Every amendment was rejected by the voters of the State. The vote in Plymouth upon the several propositions was:—

1 Amendments to bill of rights	38	yes	188	no
2 Biennial Election of House of Representatives &c.	19		210	
3 Thirty Senators biennially elected	26		200	
4 A lieutenant governor, biennially elected	27		202	
5 Biennial elections and sessions	13		216	

6	Many changes in the appointment and election of officials	27	yes	200	no
7	Trial Justices	34		195	
8	Abolition of religious test and property qualification	33		196	
9	Legislative submission of proposed amendments	31		196	
10	Election by the people of judges and attorney general	17		211	
11	Superintendent of public instruction created	18		209	
12	Commission of agriculture created	13		215	
13	Provision for elections by plurality	22		205	
14	Abolition of Executive Council	33		194	
15	Several minor amendments jointly submitted	22		202	

The constitutional convention reassembled April 16, 1851, and proceeded to canvass the vote of the State upon the several proposed amendments. None having been approved, the convention resubmitted the eighth and ninth amendments. By a division of the eighth there were three propositions submitted to the people. The vote was taken throughout the State March 9, 1852. The vote of Plymouth follows:—

1	Abolition of the religious test	55	yes	19	no
2	Abolition of property qualification	29		48	
3	Legislative submission of proposed amendments	30		31	

The second proposed amendment only was approved and ratified. The vote of the State was 15,297 for ratification and 5,799 opposed.

The next convention was called in accordance with a vote taken in March, 1776. Upon the question of the expediency of calling a convention, the town of Plymouth did not vote March, 1858, March, 1861, March, 1863, November, 1864. At meeting assembled Nov. 3, 1868, the town gave 1 vote in favor of calling a convention and 124 against, and in March, 1870, the town voted to dismiss the article of the warrant. March, 1876, there were 64 votes for and 99 against a convention. The calling of a convention was approved by a total vote in the State of 28,971 to 10,912, and the sixth constitutional convention assembled at Concord, Dec. 6, 1876. The delegates from Plymouth were Joseph Burrows and Nathan H. Weeks. Mr. Burrows was one

of the committee on future amendments of the constitution and an able advocate of several propositions. Mr. Weeks, like his associate, voted for a majority of the proposed amendments. George H. Adams, now of Plymouth, was a delegate from Camp-ton. The convention submitted thirteen propositions, which were voted upon by the several towns March 13, 1877. The vote of Plymouth follows:—

1 Abolition of word Protestant.	87	yes	138	no
2 Trial of small causes	101		124	
3 Biennial elections	89		136	
4 Amended plan of representation	54		171	
5 Twenty four senators	83		142	
6 Election of sheriff, registers and solicitors by the people	97		128	
7 Abolition of religious test	89		136	
8 Town aid to corporations barred	92		133	
9 State Election in November	116		109	
10 Jury trials of appealed cases	102		123	
11 Jurisdiction of Justice's court	89		136	
12 Prohibition of removal from office for political reasons	87		133	
13 Provision concerning parochial schools	114		111	

Eleven of the proposed amendments were approved by the people, and the first and twelfth were rejected. An act providing for an expression of the people upon the expediency of calling a constitutional convention was approved July 27, 1883. The people refused to call a convention by a vote of 13,036 to 14,120; less than one-third of the voters expressed an opinion upon the proposition. The question was again submitted by an act approved Aug. 13, 1885. The vote of the people was taken in March, 1886. The town of Plymouth voted 36 for and 78 against a convention. The vote of the State was 11,466 for and 10,213 against. The convention was called, and assembled at Concord, Jan. 2, 1889. The delegate from Plymouth was Hazen D. Smith, who was appointed to the committee on future amendments to the constitution. The convention submitted seven proposed amendments. The vote of the people was taken March 12, 1889. The vote of Plymouth upon the several propositions was:—

1 Legislature to assemble and official year to begin in January	189	yes	41	no
2 Senators and representatives paid a stated salary	197		40	
3 Vacancies in senate filled by new election	170		45	
4 Speaker of the house to succeed as Governor	183		35	
5 The prohibition of manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors	92		167	
6 Non-sectarian amendment	99		88	
7 Abolition of classed towns in representation	78		103	

Five amendments were ratified by the people. The fifth and sixth proposed amendments were rejected. Upon the expediency of calling a new convention for the revision of the constitution, the sense of the people was taken in accordance with an act approved April 1, 1893. The vote was light and the negative prevailed, and with the same result a vote was taken under the provisions of an act approved March 27, 1895. In these two expressions of the sentiment of the people, about one-third of the voters of the State expressed an opinion. The third effort to call a convention was successful. The act was approved March 1, 1899, and the sense of the people upon the expediency was taken at the November election in 1900. Out of a total vote of over 90,000 only 10,571 expressed a desire for a convention, and only 3,287 voted against the proposition. The vote of the people was an expression, and the subsequent rejection of nearly all the amendments was a demonstration that there was no popular demand for a revision of the constitution.

The convention assembled in the hall of the house of representatives, at Concord, Tuesday, Dec. 2, 1902. The delegates from Plymouth were Frank W. Russell and Alvin F. Wentworth. Other delegates of Plymouth connections were Frank E. Blodgett of Allenstown, George W. Stone of Andover, John M. Mitchell of Concord, Mortier L. Morrison of Peterborough, Henry Cummings of Enfield, Edwin P. Pike of Haverhill, William R. Park of Warren, and Irving W. Drew of Lancaster. Mr. Wentworth was appointed on the committee of organization, and Mr. Russell served on the committee on mode of future amendments. The

convention adjourned December 19, submitting ten proposed amendments. The vote upon the acceptance or rejection of the several propositions was taken at the annual meeting, March 10, 1903. The vote of Plymouth follows:—

Amendment No. 1.

Add at the end of article eleven of the Bill of Rights the following:

But no person shall have the right to vote, or be eligible to office under the constitution of this state, who shall not be able to read the constitution in the English language, and to write; *provided, however*, that this provision shall not apply to any person prevented by a physical disability from complying with its requisitions, nor to any person who now has the right to vote, nor to any person who shall be sixty years of age or upwards on the first day of January, A. D. 1904.

Yes 239 No 49

Amendment No. 2.

Amend article 47, part second, of the constitution by adding to it the words Provided that no person shall be so nominated and recommended until he shall have been examined and found duly qualified by an examining board appointed by the governor; so that the said article 47 shall read as follows:

ART. 47. The captains and subalterns in the respective regiments shall be nominated and recommended by the field officers to the governor, who is to issue their commissions immediately on receipt of such recommendation; *provided*, that no person shall be so nominated and recommended until he shall have been examined and found duly qualified by an examining board appointed by the governor.

Yes 138 No 68

Amendment No. 3.

Amend article 66, part second, of the constitution by striking out the words "and commissary-general" and inserting the words "and the" between the word "secretary" and the word "treasurer," so that the said article 66 shall read as follows:

ART. 66. The secretary and the treasurer shall be chosen by joint ballot of the senators and representatives, assembled in one room.

Yes 95 No 100

Amendment No. 4.

Amend article 6, part second, of the constitution so that it shall read:

ART. 6. The public charges of government, or any part thereof, may be raised by taxation upon polls, estates, and other classes of property, including franchises and property when passing by will or inheritance;

and there shall be a valuation of the estates within the state taken anew once in every five years, at least, and as much oftener as the general court shall order.

Yes 122 No 91

Amendment No. 5.

Amend article 76, part second, of the constitution by the addition of the following words :

And the general court are further empowered to give to police courts jurisdiction to try and determine, subject to the respondent's right of appeal and trial by jury, criminal causes wherein the punishment is less than imprisonment in the state prison ; so that when amended said section shall read :

ART. 76. The general court are empowered to give to justices of the peace jurisdiction in civil causes, when the damages demanded shall not exceed one hundred dollars and title of real estate is not concerned, but with right of appeal to either party to some other court. And the general court are further empowered to give to police courts jurisdiction to try and determine, subject to the respondent's right of appeal and trial by jury, criminal causes wherein the punishment is less than imprisonment in state prison.

Yes 134 No 79

Amendment No. 6.

Amend article 6 of the Bill of Rights by striking therefrom the word "evangelical," and inserting the word Christian in place thereof, and by striking out the word "towns" from said section wherever it appears, and by striking out the word "Protestant;" also by striking out the words "And every denomination of Christians" from the third clause of said article 6, and inserting the words "All religious sects and denominations" in place thereof, so that the same as amended shall read :

ART. 6. As morality and piety, rightly grounded on Christian principles, will give the best and greatest security to government, and will lay in the hearts of men the strongest obligations to due subjection, and as the knowledge of these is most likely to be propagated through a society by the institution of the public worship of the DEITY and of public instruction in morality and religion, therefore to promote those important purposes, the people of this state have a right to empower, and do hereby fully empower, the legislature to authorize, from time to time, the several parishes, bodies corporate or religious societies within this state to make adequate provision, at their own expense, for the support and maintenance of public teachers of piety, religion, and morality. *Provided, notwithstanding*, that the several parishes, bodies corporate, or religious societies shall at all times have the exclusive right of electing their own public teachers and of contracting with them for their support and

maintenance. And no person of any one particular religious sect or denomination shall ever be compelled to pay toward the support of the teacher or teachers of another persuasion, sect, or denomination. All religious sects and denominations, demeaning themselves quietly and as good subjects of the state, shall be equally under the protection of the law; and no subordination of any one sect or denomination to another shall ever be established by law. And nothing herein shall be understood to affect any former contracts made for the support of the ministry; but all such contracts shall remain and be in the same state as if this constitution had not been made.

Yes 96 No 110

Amendment No. 7.

The word "male" is hereby stricken out of article 27, part second, of the constitution.

Yes 84 No 137

Amendment No. 8.

Article 82 of the constitution is amended by adding the following: Free and fair competition in the trades and industries is an inherent and essential right of the people and should be protected against all monopolies and conspiracies which tend to hinder or destroy it. The size and functions of all corporations should be so limited and regulated as to prohibit fictitious capitalization, and provision should be made for the supervision and government thereof:

Therefore, all just power possessed by the state is hereby granted to the general court to enact laws to prevent the operations within the state of all persons and associations, and all trusts and corporations, foreign or domestic, and the officers thereof, who endeavor to raise the price of any article of commerce or to destroy free and fair competition in the trades and industries through combination, conspiracy, monopoly, or any other unfair means; to control and regulate the acts of all such persons, associations, corporations, trusts, and officials doing business within the state; to prevent fictitious capitalization; and to authorize civil and criminal proceedings in respect to all the wrongs herein declared against.

Yes 145 No 63

Amendment No. 9.

Amend articles 9 and 10 of part second of the constitution by striking out the word "six," and inserting instead thereof the word "eight;" and by striking out the word "eighteen," and inserting instead thereof the word "twenty-four;" and by striking out the word "twelve," and inserting instead thereof the word "sixteen;" and by adding to section 10 the following: *Provided*, that the legislature may authorize contiguous towns, or contiguous towns and wards having, respectively, less than eight hundred inhabitants, but whose inhabitants in the aggregate equal or exceed

eight hundred, to unite for the purpose of electing a representative, if each town so decides by major vote, at a meeting called for the purpose; and the votes of towns, thus united, shall be cast, counted, returned, and declared, as the votes for senators are cast, counted, returned, and declared; and the governor shall, fourteen days before the first Wednesday of each biennial session of the legislature, issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen representatives, by a plurality of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day; so that said sections, as amended, shall read as follows:

ART. 9. There shall be, in the legislature of this state, a representation of the people, biennially elected, and founded upon principles of equality; and, in order that such representation may be as equal as circumstances will admit, every town, or place entitled to town privileges, and wards of cities, having eight hundred inhabitants by the last general census of the state, taken by authority of the United States or of this state, may elect one representative; if twenty-four hundred such inhabitants, may elect two representatives; and so proceeding in that proportion, making sixteen hundred such inhabitants the mean increasing number for any additional representative: *provided*, that no town shall be divided or the boundaries of the wards of any city so altered as to increase the number of representatives to which such town or city may be entitled by the next preceding census; *and provided further*, that, to those towns and cities which since the last census have been divided or had their boundaries or ward lines changed, the general court in session next before these amendments shall take effect shall equitably apportion representation in such manner that the number shall not be greater than it would have been had no such division or alteration been made.

ART. 10. Whenever any town, place, or city ward shall have less than eight hundred such inhabitants, the general court shall authorize such town, place, or ward to elect and send to the general court a representative such proportionate part of the time, in each period of ten years, as the number of its inhabitants shall bear to eight hundred; but the general court shall not authorize any such town, place, or ward to elect and send such representative, except as herein provided; *provided*, that the legislature may authorize contiguous towns, or contiguous towns and wards having, respectively, less than eight hundred inhabitants, but whose inhabitants in the aggregate equal or exceed eight hundred, to unite for the purpose of electing a representative, if each town so decides by major vote, at a meeting called for the purpose; and the votes of towns, thus united, shall be cast, counted, returned, and declared, as the votes for senators are cast, counted, returned, and declared; and the governor shall, fourteen days before the first Wednesday of each biennial session of the

legislature, issue his summons to such persons as appear to be chosen representatives, by a plurality of votes, to attend and take their seats on that day.

Yes 122 No 89

Amendment No. 10.

Add to the constitution the following:

The legislature shall have full power and authority to establish more than one place of public meeting within the limits of any town or ward in the state for the casting, counting, declaring, and returning of votes, and the election of officers under the constitution; to prescribe the manner of warning, holding, and conducting such meetings; and for that purpose to divide any town or ward into voting precincts.

Yes 93 No 104

The total vote of the State regarded the proposed amendments with less favor. The third, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth, and tenth propositions were rejected by the people.

XVI. THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

“VOTED to hire Mr. Nathan Ward to preach four days in the township aforesaid this spring.”

There is no passage in the records of Plymouth that illustrates the character of the proprietors and the desires of the early settlers with equal force and clearness. In the culture of their childhood and in the experience of maturer years a community was not complete and the souls of men were not satisfied without the stated ministrations of the Gospel. In a continued expression of this sentiment a church was founded and a minister was settled two years before the organization of the town.

The vote to hire Mr. Ward was passed at Hollis by the proprietors April 16, 1764.

The article in the warrant for the meeting was more comprehensive than the vote, and combined they present ample assurance of an early establishment of a permanent and uninterrupted ministry in Plymouth. The article follows:—

To see what meathod the Proprietors will Take about Setteling a minister at Plymoth and Likewise to see if thay will be at the Cost of Hiering sum Preaching there the year insuing and also to Raise money if there is need to Defray the Charge and to actt and Do aney other thing which may then be thought proper by the Propriators.

With such ample evidence of the early intentions and thought of the men who were forwarding the settlement, the future maintenance of the ministry is fully assured.

Ensign David Hobart was selected “to wait upon Mr. Ward.” In his mission the worthy representative of the proprietors was successful.

Rev. Henry A. Hazen, in an able and instructive Centennial Discourse, has preserved the testimony of Deacon John Willoughby, that Mr. Ward preached two discourses in Plymouth, Sunday, May 19, 1764, and that the text of the morning sermon was Isaiah i. 19: "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land." In the afternoon the text was Luke xv. 24: "For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost and is found. And they began to be merry."

These sermons were preached at the house of Col. David Webster. Mr. Ward wrote the story of his ministry on the tablets of the human heart, and whatever record he made of the events of his labors or the history of the church have been lost many years. It is stated in Ward Genealogy, published 1851, that the church of Plymouth was organized April 16, 1764. This date has been accepted as a part of the written history of the church. It was the same day the proprietors, exercising the functions of a parish, voted to hire Mr. Ward to preach four days. This is the oldest church in Grafton County. The next in the order of seniority is the church embracing Haverhill and Newbury, Vt., which was organized in September following.

The next minute in the records upon this subject is a vote, passed at a meeting in Hollis, July 9, 1764, to allow Abel Webster twenty pounds old tenor for boarding Mr. Ward twelve days. This sum is stated in depreciated currency, and was equivalent to about six days' labor. It has been assumed by the students of Plymouth history that Abel Webster entertained Mr. Ward at Plymouth, and that this record of payment for board is evidence that Mr. Ward was twelve days in Plymouth previous to July 9, 1764. It is quite probable that before midsummer of the first year Mr. Ward was in Plymouth more than twelve days, but the vote to pay Abel Webster for his entertainment cannot be accepted as evidence. It is known that Abel Webster did not remove to Plymouth until 1765, and that at a meeting held in February, 1865, he is styled Abel Webster of Hollis.

The first vote of the proprietors was not a proposition to dis-

cover and procure a minister, but a matured purpose to employ Mr. Ward, apparently known to them, and whose assent had been secured. It is not proven, but it appears probable, that Mr. Ward was in Hollis a part of the year 1764, that the terms of his settlement in Plymouth were arranged there, and that for twelve days at least he was entertained by Abel Webster.

At the same meeting, July 9, 1764, the proprietors "voted to give Mr. Nathan Ward a call to Settel in the work of the Gospel ministry at Plymouth." This meeting was adjourned to September 3, when the proprietors "voted to hire two days preaching at Plymouth this fall."

At this date a considerable number of families were permanently located in the town. Mr. Ward had preached to them several Sabbaths. He had sat by their rude firesides and had learned from observation the hardships and self-denials of a new settlement. As he preached from the pulpit, they respected the minister. As he mingled with them in gentle sympathy and brotherly kindness, they loved the man. To them a minister had been sent, and they were content. To Mr. Ward the door was opened, revealing to his mental vision the labor of a lifetime. At once the future was secure. If there was any hesitancy on the part of Mr. Ward, or any reservation on the part of the congregation, it has escaped record. From the facts known, the inference is an assertion of perfect harmony and satisfaction.

According to congregational usage, the call of the church must be supplemented by the assent of a body exercising the functions of a parish. Either the town of Plymouth or the proprietors must act in this capacity. Undoubtedly this problem was fully debated. At a meeting of the proprietors, assembled at the house of Samuel Cummings in Hollis, Feb. 12, 1765, an article in the warrant to organize the town was dismissed. Comprehending the effect of such action, the proprietors at the same meeting, in the capacity of a parish,

Voted to give Mr. Nathan Ward for his yearly salary one hundred and fifty ounces of silver or the value of it in New Hampshire money

and also thirty cords of wood annually until the town shall increase to the number of one hundred families; and then to add five ounces to his salary every year till it amounts to two hundred ounces and so remain during the time that he is able to carry on the work of the ministry.

Voted to give Mr. Nathan Ward one hundred and twenty dollars for his encouragement for his settling in the work of the ministry at Plymouth, besides the right given him by the charter.

Voted Ensign David Hobart, John Brown, and Abel Webster be a committee to wait upon Mr. Ward to see if he will accept of the encouragement given him by the proprietors.

The details of the mission of the committee and the formal answer of Mr. Ward are not preserved. The continued progress of the work, preliminary to an ordination, was not suspended. A meeting of the proprietors was called April 3 to assemble April 25 at the house of Samuel Cummings. At this meeting the proprietors "chose David Hobart, Abel Webster, John Brown, William Nevins, and Stephen Webster to act in behalf of the proprietors in respect to the ordination of Mr. Nathan Ward." This was the last meeting held in Hollis. At a meeting held at the house of David Webster in Plymouth, June 13, 1765, provision was made for the salary of Mr. Ward.

Voted to raise seventeen pounds fifteen shillings, old tenor, upon each right for Mr. Ward's salary for the year ensuing [£1065].

Voted to raise twelve pounds fifteen shillings, old tenor upon each right for Mr. Ward's settlement.

Voted to raise three pounds, old tenor, upon each right for ordination expenses.

There were sixty taxable rights. The sum of the three votes in old tenor was equivalent, at prices then prevailing, to over six hundred days' labor.

There is no original record of the installation of Mr. Ward. Plymouth was then a frontier town, and remote from the homes of the ministers invited to solemnize the event. Influenced by the conditions prevailing, a council frequently assembled at a convenient point and remote from the church which called it. In this instance it would be anticipated that the ministers invited

would assemble in southern New Hampshire or in Massachusetts. A church manual was printed in 1830. The little pamphlet is prefaced by one page of historical record, containing the statement that Mr. Ward was ordained over the church in Plymouth, at Newburyport, July 10, 1765. The Ward Genealogy repeats the record, giving the date July 11, 1765. The eleventh of July was Thursday, and is a more probable date for a church ceremony.

The records of twenty-three churches have been examined, without results, for incidental reference to this council. The examination neither proves nor disproves anything in this connection. In most instances there were found no references to any councils to which the churches were invited.

The terms "ordination" and "installation" were often confused in the early records. It is probable that the council which assembled at Newburyport in July, 1765, recognized the previous ordination of Mr. Ward at Newton, Mass., and that the ceremony was an installation.

The town was organized in July, 1766, and at once assumed the duties of a parish, relieving the proprietors from responsibility. The second meeting, held at the house of James Hobart in October, was called to raise money for town purposes and "to see if the town will give Rev. Mr. Ward the same salary and settlement that was formerly voted him by the proprietors." The town voted:—

To give the Rev. Mr. Ward fifty pounds in money and thirty cords of wood the present year for his salary.

To give the Rev. Mr. Ward thirty six pounds in money for settlement and whereas Mr. Abel Webster has paid the foregoing thirty six pounds to the Rev. Mr. Ward for settlement that the town shall pay to the said Abel Webster the aforesaid money with interest till paid.

The proprietors had assessed and Abel Webster had collected the sum voted for a settlement, but had not assessed the first year's salary. In refunding to the proprietors the money paid for settlement, the town assumed the contract with Mr. Ward from the date of his settlement. The proprietors paid only for the preach-

ing preceding, and the expenses of, the ordination. In the following years the town adopted several measures for procuring the stipulated amount of firewood, and raised the salary for many years in the use of a phrase that remained unchanged: "Voted Mr. Ward his contract."

In the progress of years, and while prudently and successfully exercising the functions of a parish, the town shared the experience of many communities of the State. In many towns there were a few persons who embraced the Baptist faith, and who generally absented themselves from the stated meetings of the Congregationalists, and who frequently paid the ministerial tax under protest. It was the beginning of a separation of the town and the church and the acceptance of the more rational and equitable regulation of the toleration act. There is no recorded evidence of any failure of a perfect concord and unity of opinions in Plymouth until 1777, when eight taxpayers entered their dissent to the vote to raise the money by town tax for the payment of the salary of Mr. Ward. In the following year seven dissented. In the years 1778 and 1779 these men petitioned the town to be excused by vote from the tax. Their request was denied by the town. The petitioners then refused to pay the ministerial tax when assessed, and the collector proceeded by process of law against their estates. The issue was made. Abel Webster, one of the persons who refused to pay the tax, hastened to Exeter in February, 1780, with a petition, signed by the dissenters, praying for an act of relief. There he met Francis Worcester, who was a member of the council. They were able men, and both were influential in the town. In the matter of taxation for the support of the minister, Mr. Worcester was a leader of the majority, while Mr. Webster, holding the confidence and respect of all, was a potent factor of the minority. They conversed at Exeter upon the situation, and finally Mr. Webster accepted the advice of Mr. Worcester to suppress the petition for the present and to ascertain what the town would do in the premises. Viewed in the fading light of one hundred and twenty-five years, and from the stand-

point of amended conditions, many issues of moment to our fathers appear trivial to us. The situation was critical. In many towns the majority unduly oppressed the minority, excluding them from office and denying them the privilege of participating in town affairs, except the payment of taxes. In Plymouth none were elected to office more frequently than the dissenters, and there appears no breach in social relations. Under such conditions, a wise decision could not be delayed. In 1780 an agreement was made between the parties. The dissenters agreed to pay all taxes for the support of Mr. Ward that had been assessed, and to pay the costs made by the collector of taxes. The dignity of the town was maintained, and the majority promptly assented to the conditions proposed by the dissenters that hereafter "all persons of the Baptist principles who are not inclined to hear Mr. Ward be excused from ministerial taxes." The dissenters, at the cost of yielding to the supremacy of the town in the past, won the essential feature of the contention. Thereafter all was peace. After Abel Webster returned to Plymouth Mr. Worcester wrote the following letter, which is complimentary to the writer and voices the sentiment of the town in the final measures of conciliation. The letter was written on one side of a large half-sheet of paper, and in using the reverse side to record the minutes of a town meeting, the letter is preserved for use in this connection.

EXETER Feb'y 17, 1780.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Plymouth
Gentlemen.

Mr. Abel Webster informed that Distress is made by the Constable of Plymouth upon the goods and estates of some of those persons in said Town who have absented themselves from Mr. Ward's Meeting, by means whereof Mr. Webster attended the General Court with a Petition signed by a considerable number of the Inhabitants of Plymouth praying to be released from paying any taxes towards the support of Mr. Ward, which is as they set forth contrary to Liberty of Conscience as they are of a different persuasion. I desired him not to present the Petition to the Court until such time as the opinion of the Town might be taken upon it, to which he consented and is returned home again.

Our Town is young and small; disputes in any public Court will serve

to weaken and lay a foundation for malice ill will and party spirit, instead of promoting and cultivating Peace Union and Harmony, which is so necessary to the happiness and well being of every community, especially Towns in their infant state.

With such like views, I apprehend that it would be best to return to the owners all goods taken by Distress in that way and let another trial be made to settle and accomodate these difficulties among ourselves and thereby lay a foundation for Peace in the Town, which is the hearty desire of

Humble Serv^t

FRANCIS WORCESTER

The persons who entered a protest against being taxed for the support of a minister not of their faith in 1777, 1778, and 1779 were Thomas Lucas, Zebadiah Richardson, Ephraim Keyes, Stephen Webster, Stephen Webster, Jr., Abel Webster, Amos Webster, Joseph Wheeler, Stephen Wells, Simeon Hovey, Paul Wells.

The persons who were excused from paying taxes for the support of Mr. Ward after the compromise of 1780 were Stephen Webster, Stephen Webster, Jr., Daniel C. Webster, Abel Webster, Nathaniel Webster, Stephen Wells, Zebadiah Richardson, Abijah Wright, Ephraim Keyes, Samuel Ambrose, Jacob Draper, Joseph Kimball, Simeon Hovey, Thomas Lucas, Henry Erving. This record ends with the close of the year 1783. There were additions in subsequent years, but the names of those who made the issue and established the innovation are given.

Until the beginning of this movement the salary of Mr. Ward had been raised and paid with uniform regularity. On account of the burdens incident to the Revolution, and the refusal of the Baptists to pay their proportion of the tax, it appears in 1780 that the salary for the two preceding years had not been paid. A part of the sum due had been tendered in depreciated currency, which Mr. Ward had refused.

Having come to a permanent understanding with the Baptists, the town, in April, 1780, offered Mr. Ward three hundred ounces in silver for the salary of the past two years, which was accepted.

In March, 1781, the town offered Mr. Ward £50 in silver, at

six shillings and eight pence per ounce [150 ounces], deducting the proportion of those persons who withdrew from his preaching. At the same time Col. Joseph Senter, Lieut. Josiah Brown, and Ebenezer Blodgett were requested to wait upon Mr. Ward and learn his decision. To this proposition Mr. Ward made reply that he would be content with £40 and no deductions, to which the town assented. In 1781 the town gave Mr. Ward £50, and he returned £10 as a voluntary contribution towards the expense of building Baker's River bridge. As long as money was computed in sterling the salary was £50. In 1783 Mr. Ward came forward with a proposition to give the town one-half of his salary, and only £25 was raised that year. After the Revolution the town increased in wealth and population, and the salary of the minister was fully paid without complaint or unusual sacrifice.

Mr. Ward was often invited to preach or attend councils in other towns, and he frequently held week-day services in many settlements destitute of a pastor. It is stated in the Diary of Matthew Patten of Bedford that Mr. Ward of Plymouth preached in Derryfield, Sunday, June 23, 1771, and in Bedford, Sunday, March 1, 1772. He preached for Rev. Timothy Walker of Concord, Sunday, Nov. 19, 1780, and often he rode to New Chester, Bridgewater, and other near-by towns and preached to willing listeners in barns and in groves.

Rev. Nathan Ward, the first pastor of the Congregational Church of Plymouth, was born in Newton, Mass., April 11, 1721. His parents were Joseph and Esther (Kenrick) Ward, and many of his kindred were distinguished in civil and church affairs. In early life Mr. Ward was a farmer. He was not a college graduate, but he was not an uneducated man. He was nearly or quite thirty years of age when he began to preach and assumed the solemn obligations of ordination.

Rev. George Whitefield, in 1740, made his first visit to New England. His fame had preceded him, and multitudes from near and far flocked to hear him. To the churches of New England

he did not preach new doctrines, but with the force and eloquence of an impassioned nature he persuaded men to fervid resolutions and denounced the churches for any failure in maintaining the standard of his exalted ideals. If he was not approved by some of the ministers he was welcomed to the pulpit of many churches. During a later mission to America, in 1748, Mr. Whitefield preached in Newton, and among the many who were awakened was Nathan Ward. A large majority of the followers of Whitefield remained within, or subsequently were connected with, the Congregational churches. Those who withdrew from the churches and founded independent churches were called New Lights or Separatists. In Newton an independent church was organized, and Mr. Ward was invited to become their pastor. The meetings assembled at his house. He was regularly ordained, and ministered to his devoted flock about seven years.

By the law and custom of the time, ordained ministers were exempt from taxation. The town authorities of Newton, withholding the privilege granted to other ordained ministers, continued to tax Mr. Ward, who preferred the following memorial, which was presented in town meeting March 3, 1755:—

Gentlemen:—It hath pleased a sovereign and all wise God, who is wont to choose the weak things of the world to confound the wise, as I humbly trust and believe, to call me, who am less than the least of all saints, to preach his gospel, and also to take the pastoral care of a church in this town, who, some few years past embodied into a church for the carrying on the Worship of God agreeable to his word and their consciences; and I have been, as some of you are eye witnesses ordained and solemnly set apart to the work of the gospel ministry by prayer and the laying on of hands.

And now, gentlemen, you well know that it ever hath been the case that those who hath been ordained to the work of the gospel ministry ever hath been freed from all taxes or rates, and indeed they are so both by the Divine and Civil law. But yet, notwithstanding my calling as a minister of God's word and ordinances, the assessors of this town have been pleased, since the time of my ordination, both to rate my person and assess my estate, which, I apprehend, is not their duty to do, nor indeed mine to pay. And now, gentlemen, as it is in your power to

grant me freedom in this matter, my humble petition and request unto you at this time is, that you would free me, together with my estate under my particular improvement, from being rated or assessed so long as I shall act in this public character, that I may enjoy the like privileges of this nature as do other ordained ministers. And so doing you will oblige

Your most humble servant,

NATHAN WARD.

In the course of a few years a majority of the little church in Newton became Anti-pedobaptists. Mr. Ward adhered to his belief in infant baptism. There is no evidence of any discord between the pastor and his church, but they were living in an age when slight differences in the creed were regarded as consequential. The relations were amicably dissolved. In 1760, and while an effort was being made to found a church and parish, comprising the towns of Walpole and Newcastle in Maine, Mr. Ward preached there several months, dividing his labors between the two towns. The union was not consummated, and Mr. Ward remained, preaching wholly in Newcastle. A call was extended May 8, 1761, and was accepted. In the mutual arrangements for the installation, the time and place of the ceremonies were referred wholly to Mr. Ward. According to Congregational usage a number of churches were invited to meet in council. The churches invited to the contemplated installation were: Concord, Mass., Rev. Daniel Bliss; Hollis, Rev. Daniel Emerson; Boston, Mass., Brick Church, Rev. Ebenezer Pemberton; Boston, Mass., Old South Church, Rev. Joseph Sewall, D.D.; Sutton, Mass., Rev. David Hall, D.D.; Bridgewater, Mass., Rev. John Porter; Ipswich, Mass., Chebacco Parish, Rev. John Cleveland.

The law of the province required that the settlement of a minister was not legally consummated until the proceedings were approved by a majority of the ministers of the county. At this time there were no settled ministers in the county, and time was consumed in seeking advice concerning the legality of the arrangements. In the meantime the question was raised whether Mr.

Ward had been regularly dismissed at Newton, and a committee was appointed to enlighten the people of Newcastle on that point. In the report of the committee, says Rev. David Quimby Cushman, "Mr. Ward stood before them as a man of candor and uprightness and a minister of blameless conversation, rectitude of character, and success in his work."

It is more than probable that the council was not convened, and in the summer of 1763 Mr. Ward, who was absent at the time, wrote the people of Newcastle requesting them to withdraw the proffered call, to which the town assented in September following. The proprietors living in Hollis were seeking a minister to preach in Plymouth. Undoubtedly they consulted their pastor, Rev. Daniel Emerson, whom they respected and loved. If not previously acquainted, through the arrangements for a council to settle a minister in Newcastle, Mr. Emerson learned of Mr. Ward. The orderings of a human life are mysterious. Perhaps in a little settlement on the coast of Maine the hand was extended that opened the door to a lifework in Plymouth. Soon after a call had been extended to Mr. Ward, and possibly before the fact was known to the pastor and officers of the church in Chebacco Parish, Ipswich, Mass., they gave Mr. Ward the following letter of commendation, which is recorded in the records of that church: —

To whom it may concern.

Greeting. These may testify that Mr. Nathan Ward, of Newtown in the Massachusetts Province, about five years ago preached several Sabbaths to us to very good acceptance. And divers times since he has occasionally preached the Gospel to us. His preaching is sound, methodical and lively and has a Tendency to awaken the secure, to lead the convinced to Christ and to comfort and establish such as have found Christ. He appears to us to be free from a bitter party Spirit, but to have such a measure of Qualifications for a Gospel Preacher that we can find a Freedom to recommend him to the Saints to be improved in the Gospel and to any People that shall incline to improve him as a Gospel Preacher and pray God that wherever he shall be improved he may have the Blessing of many souls ready to perish come upon him.

And now wishing Prosperity to Zion and to all that love her and pray-

ing that God would give the word and the Company of well qualified and faithful Preachers to publish it may be great, we subscribe,

In the Name and Behalf of the
fourth Church in Ipswich.

JOHN CLEAVELAND Pastor.
FRANCIS CHOATE R. Elder.
DANIEL GEDDINGE R. Elder.

Chebacco in Ipswich
August 19, 1764

By the terms of the charter the first settled minister was entitled to land equal to that received by a grantee or proprietor. His four fifty-acre lots are mentioned in another chapter. He also received a lot of interval in the great horse pasture, which he exchanged for the eleventh lot on Baker's River. He directed and assisted in the cultivation of his farm. In 1778 he was assessed for land and buildings and one horse, four oxen, five cows, and eight young cattle. Only David Webster, Josiah Brown, and Samuel Emerson paid a larger tax. During the Revolution he was an ardent patriot, and in town and school affairs he was a good citizen. In qualities of mind and in temperament Mr. Ward was eminently qualified for his mission in Plymouth. On account of the infirmities of age he was dismissed, at his request, Jan. 4, 1798. He continued to reside in this town, and died June 15, 1804.

The traditions of the ministry of Mr. Ward are uniformly that he was an able, fearless preacher, that he impressed his hearers with his sincerity, his faith, and his earnest solicitude for the salvation of men. If he did not bring to the pulpit or to the fireside the conventional manner of the old school, he failed not in kindness of manner and in gentleness of spirit.

Through years of labor, through seasons of hope and hours of despondency, his labors for his people were incessant, and he wisely laid the foundations which have safely borne the structure reared by his able successors. It was said of Mr. Ward while living, "He is a good man." This sentiment in the congregation

added force to his sermons, and as he mingled with the people he was continually preaching with the power of a devoted life.

As he paled and grew aged in the service of his people, their love was not lessened, and when his tired hands fell from the plough and his weary feet no longer trod the furrow in the vineyard he had tilled with pious care, their respect was renewed in the living memory of his constant ministrations.

In April, 1798, two months after the dismissal of Mr. Ward, a meeting was called "To see if the town will take some probable and effectual measures to procure an honest, learned, ingenious, and well qualified candidate for the Gospel ministry." The specified qualifications were exacting, but the town chose a committee fully competent to execute the trust. They were Judge Samuel Emerson, Lieut. Josiah Brown, Elisha Bean, and Capt. William Webster. The committee procured Mr. Daniel Hardy, who preached several months. A call by the church and the town was extended, but for reasons not now discernible he was not installed. The church records in this connection are not preserved. Rev. Daniel Hardy, son of Daniel and Sarah (Greenough) Hardy, was born in Bedford, Mass., 1773. In his childhood the family removed to Pelham. He graduated from Dartmouth, 1789, and was a tutor there several years. After preaching in Plymouth he was ordained and preached occasionally through life, but was not settled over any church. His years were mainly devoted to teaching. He was principal of Chesterfield Academy about two years, and of Bradford (Mass.) Academy, 1808-10, and subsequently he received pupils at his home in Pelham. He died in Dracut, Mass., Nov. 25, 1833.

The following year the same committee invited Rev. Drury Fairbank to preach as a candidate. He received a call from the church and the town, which was accepted. His salary was £100 (\$333.33). The churches invited and joining in the council of ordination were Holliston, Mass., Rev. Timothy Dickinson; Concord, Rev. Asa McFarland, D.D.; Thornton, Rev. Noah Worcester, D.D.; Boscawen, Rev. Samuel Wood, D.D.; Salisbury, Rev.

Thomas Worcester; Andover, Rev. Josiah Badcock; Sanbornton, Rev. Joseph Woodman; Hebron, Rev. Thomas Page. Mr. Fairbank was ordained Jan. 8, 1800.

As a preacher he was more tranquil and composed than Mr. Ward. If he preached with less animation and vigor, his sermons were timely, penetrating, and spiritual. He was a faithful and devoted pastor, and was constantly employed in parish labors. He lived near the people, and the records and traditions of his ministry testify to the kindness of the man and the friendship of the pastor.

The petition, in 1777, of eight residents of Plymouth to be excused from the payment of taxes for the support of a minister not of their faith, with other petitions in other towns, was the beginning of a movement that culminated in a revolution in the method of raising money for the support of ministers in New Hampshire. The number excused from the ministers' rate from year to year increased until the burden upon the remainder became onerous. As long as the people of a town were of one faith the system was one of equitable intentions and good results. With an increase in the population and in the number of churches, it became apparent that a town could not exercise the functions of a parish of two or more churches, and in many minor particulars this agency of the town was a trespass on the rights of a minority. In 1819 the toleration act, which severed the relations of the town and the church and authorized the organization of independent parishes, was passed. The societies or parishes organized under the provisions of this act assumed the powers of a corporation without additional legislation.

In the consummation of a measure previously inaugurated the Congregationalists of Plymouth, at the same session, obtained a special act of incorporation as a parish, which was approved June 15, 1819. While these important measures and radical changes were being debated, Mr. Fairbank preferred a request for an increase of salary. The request was reasonable, but it was untimely. Under more favorable conditions an increase of

salary would have been granted. He was dismissed, at his request, March 18, 1818.

Rev. Drury Fairbank, son of Drury and Rachel (Drury), was born in Holliston, Mass., Oct. 13, 1772. He graduated from Brown University, 1797, and studied divinity with Rev. Nathaniel Emmons, D.D., of Franklin, Mass. His first settlement was at Plymouth. After his dismissal here he engaged in Home Missions a short time and was installed at Littleton, where he preached until his dismissal, March 16, 1836. Retiring to a farm, he lived in Littleton until he died, May 21, 1856.

The successor to Mr. Fairbank was Rev. Jonathan Ward, a son of the first pastor of the church, who labored eleven years in the vineyard planted by his honored father. His first pastorate was in Alva, Me., where he was dismissed, at his request, July 22, 1818. He came to Plymouth the following August and preached here, without installation, from year to year until 1829. His farewell sermon was delivered September 20. Mr. Ward was a man of superior powers and unfailing piety. His life is the story of devotion to the spiritual welfare of his fellowmen. If at times he appeared austere and formal, it was more the expression of his devotion to the church than of any failure of sympathy and friendship for his neighbors and friends.

As a preacher his sermons were convincing, his sincerity was impressive, and his anxious concern for his congregation was the silent and enduring force of his preaching.

The departure of Rev. Jonathan Ward had been anticipated, and Mr. Punchard was invited to supply the pulpit the succeeding Sabbath. A severe sickness delayed the coming of the candidate, and Rev. James Hobart preached about six months as a temporary supply. He was a native of Plymouth, and was the pastor of the church in Berlin, Vt., many years. (See Volume II.) Mr. Punchard began his labor in this town in the spring of 1830. He was young, ardent, and gifted, an able preacher and a sagacious, active pastor. His power in the pulpit and his influence among the people are fresh in the annals of the church, and are attested by the

increase of membership expressed in the statistics of the church at the close of this chapter.

For a brief season the labor of Mr. Punchard was disturbed by local discussions of the anti-slavery cause. It was an incident and not a condition of his ministry. Here was the home of Nathaniel Peabody Rogers, and in the church of which he was a member he raised an issue that an aggressive anti-slavery position was the first duty of the church. The attitude of the pastor and the sentiment of the church undoubtedly was in harmony with the body of the church of the free States. All were nominally anti-slavery. It was not an issue of principle, but one of degree and intensity. The church and the pastor were assailed in the press, and on account of the bitterness of the discussion the church, in 1841, withdrew fellowship with Mr. Rogers.

Early in 1842 Mr. Punchard's health became impaired and his voice failed. He was absent six months, but was not then able to resume pastoral labor. He made a voyage to Europe, without substantial improvement, and preached his farewell sermon in December, 1844.

Rev. George Punchard, son of John and Kezia (Madbury) Punchard, was born in Salem, Mass., June 7, 1806. He graduated from Dartmouth College, 1826, and pursued the prescribed course of study at Andover Theological Seminary, graduating in 1829. He was ordained at Plymouth, March 11, 1830, and dismissed, at his request, March 6, 1844. This was his only pastorate, and on account of a permanent affection of the throat, he seldom preached subsequently. He was one of the founders of the *Daily Evening Traveller*, of which he was the editor, 1845-57. In 1859 he became secretary of the New England branch of the American Tract Society, and successfully discharged the duties of the appointment until 1867, when he again returned to editorial labor upon the *Traveller*. While in Plymouth he wrote and published *View of Congregationalism* (400 pages) in 1841, which he revised, enlarged, and published in two volumes in 1865, adding a third volume in 1867. At the time of his death Volumes IV and V

were in press. He married, in July, 1830, Williamine Poole of Hanover, daughter of William Poole of Hollis; she died May 18, 1876; he died April 2, 1880. His ministry in Plymouth was memorable. With the enthusiasm of a fervid nature, and with the tact of genius, he led by persuasion and instructed by example. The genial companion of youth and age, a friend of sinners and a brother of saints, he touched and quickened the moral and intellectual forces of the community. His labor in this town, like the course of a river, was onward and enlarging. His preaching was inspiring and his influence was refining. Viewed from any standpoint, the memorable ministry of Mr. Punchard was a fruitful and happy era in the annals of Plymouth.

During the disability of Mr. Punchard, and immediately after his dismissal, Rev. Enoch Corser supplied the pulpit. He preached a considerable part of the time in 1843, 1844, and early in 1845. He was taxed in this town in 1844 and 1845.

Rev. Enoch Corser, son of David and Ruth (Blaisdell) Corser, was born in Boscawen Jan. 2, 1787, pursued a preparatory course of study with Rev. Abraham Wood of Boscawen, graduated from Middlebury College, 1811, and studied theology with Rev. Walter Harris, D.D., of Dunbarton. He was installed over the Congregational Church, London, 1817, and dismissed 1837; he supplied at Northfield 1838-43, Plymouth 1843-45, Epping 1845-48, London 1857-59. He died June 17, 1868.

During the time Mr. Corser was supplying the pulpit Rev. John U. Parsons preached a few Sabbaths. By invitation Rev. John Wilde of Conway and Rev. Mr. Saunderson each preached four Sabbaths as candidates, but a call was not extended to either. In the meantime the church invited Deacon David C. Webster to procure a candidate, and he engaged Rev. William Reed Jewett to preach four Sabbaths. A call was extended by the church and society April 24, 1845. The following day Mr. Jewett accepted the call, and a council representing nine churches was convened June 25, 1845. To this council Revs. Drury Fairbank, Jonathan Ward, and Mr. James Hobart were invited and took parts in the

order of exercises. Mr. Jewett remained a faithful and laborious pastor of the church seventeen years. In a letter dated May 13, 1862, he asked for a dismissal and proposed a mutual council. His request was granted, and the relations were dissolved by a council which convened July 10, 1862.

Rev. William Reed Jewett, son of Rev. David and Rebecca (Reed) Jewett, was born in Gloucester (now Rockport), Mass., Sept. 12, 1811, and graduated from Amherst College, 1831, and Andover Theological Seminary, 1834. He preached as stated supply in Braintree, Mass., 1835-36. He was pastor of the Congregational Church, Griswold, Conn., 1837-43; supplied at Lisbon, Conn., 1843-44. After his ministry in this town he was installed over the Congregational Church in Penacook, 1863, and dismissed 1874. He subsequently removed to Andover, Mass., where he died Aug. 26, 1882.

In the discharge of ministerial duties Mr. Jewett was laborious and faithful, and in his relations with the public he was sincere and charitable. His sermons were the expression of an earnest purpose, and in his ministrations upon the sick and bereaved he was kind and sympathetic. In an eminent degree he secured the respect of all and the love of very many.

Rev. Henry Allen Hazen began preaching in this town in October, 1862. A call was extended December 16 following, and a council was convened Jan. 20, 1863. The churches represented in the ceremonies of installation were Laconia, Campton, Hebron, Wentworth, Haverhill, Newbury, Vt., Hartford, Vt., and Windsor, Vt. The ministry of Mr. Hazen in Plymouth began in the gloom and depression of the Civil War and ended amid the triumph of victory and the smile of peace. He was dismissed, at his request, by a council which convened July 15, 1868. Mr. Hazen was a diligent pastor and an efficient supporter of every laudable enterprise in church and in town affairs. His sermons were carefully prepared and every duty of a pastor was faithfully performed.

Rev. Henry Allen Hazen, D.D., son of Allen and Hannah

Putnam (Dana) Hazen, was born in Hartford, Vt., Dec. 27, 1832. He pursued a preparatory course of study at Danville, Vt., and at Kimball Union Academy, and graduated from Dartmouth College, 1854, and Andover Theological Seminary, 1857. He was ordained as an Evangelist at St. Johnsbury, Vt., Feb. 17, 1858. He preached, without installation, in Barnard, Bridgewater, Hardwick, Barton, and West Randolph, in Vermont, until 1862.

His second pastorate was at Lyme, where he was installed Sept. 2, 1868, and dismissed Sept. 30, 1870. Installed at Pittsfield Dec. 3, 1870, dismissed Nov. 30, 1872. His fourth and last pastorate was at Billerica, Mass., where he was installed May 2, 1874, and dismissed May 4, 1879. Retiring from active service in the ministry, he removed to Auburndale, Mass., where he subsequently resided.

During his ministry in Plymouth he delivered the Historical Discourse at the Centennial Anniversary of the church, which was printed, and is a valuable contribution to the history of the town and of the church. He is the author of the History of Billerica, Mass., published in 1882. It is an accurate work and one of the best town histories that has been published.

In 1883 Dr. Hazen was elected secretary of the National Council of the Congregational churches of the United States. In this service he has earned a reputation for industry and accuracy. He prepared with unfailing care and ability the minutes of the council, and was the editor of the Year Book seventeen years. He was secretary of the International Council which met in London, 1891, and of a second meeting in Boston, 1899. In the work of preparation and in the publication of the proceedings he rendered valuable and appreciated service.

Dr. Hazen was a trustee of Kimball Union Academy, 1869-1900; Howe School, Billerica, Mass., 1875-86; and a member of New England Historic Genealogical Society, New Hampshire Historical Society, and Vermont Historical Society. He was editor of the General Catalogue of the Andover Theological Seminary,

1880, and prepared and published *Pastors of New Hampshire, and Ministry and Churches of New Hampshire*.

Reference is made to the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, July, 1901, for an appreciative and faithful biography of Dr. Hazen, contributed by his friend, Rev. Ezra Hoyt Byington, D.D. Dr. Hazen died by apoplexy, Aug. 4, 1900, while visiting his native town.

The year succeeding the dismissal of Mr. Hazen was a season of temporary supply. Cyrus Richardson, then a student in the senior class at Andover, preached three Sabbaths, and a unanimous call was promptly extended. The call was accepted, and Mr. Richardson was ordained and installed Sept. 30, 1869. Rev. Dr. Tucker, now president of Dartmouth College and then of Manchester, gave the charge to the people, and Rev. Ephraim E. P. Abbot of Meriden extended the right hand of fellowship. The ceremonies were impressive, and a memorable and fruitful ministry was inaugurated under happy auspices. The records of the church is the continued story of contentment and satisfaction. The young pastor was soon called to a larger field of labor, and he was dismissed, at his request, May 1, 1873.

Rev. Cyrus Richardson, D.D., son of Samuel and Hannah (Varnum) Richardson, was born in Draeut, Mass., March 30, 1840, graduated from Dartmouth College, 1864, Andover Theological Seminary, 1869, and received the degree of D.D. from Dartmouth College in 1889. He resigned his charge in Plymouth in order to accept an invitation of the First Congregational Church and Society of Keene, where he was installed 1873 and dismissed 1883; he was installed over the First Congregational Church of Nashua in 1883, and remains the esteemed pastor of that church. He has been a trustee for many years of the Home Missionary Society and a member of the executive committee, and for twenty-five years a trustee of Kimball Union Academy at Meriden, and since 1892 a trustee of Dartmouth College.

The church of Plymouth again sought a pastor among the students of the senior class in the Andover Seminary, extending

a call, in June, 1873, to George Hale Scott. He was ordained and installed Sept. 3, 1873. The sermon was preached by Rev. W. E. C. Wright of Philadelphia. Rev. Mr. Scott was an earnest laborer and a devoted pastor. Early in 1878 his health failed, and he was given four months' leave of absence without loss of salary. He journeyed in Europe, and was absent from late in March until September. His letter asking a dismissal is dated Aug. 30, 1881. The council convened Sept. 9, 1881, and the relations of church and pastor, to the regret of many, were severed.

Rev. George Hale Scott, son of Thomas W. and Jerusha (Shattuck) Scott, was born in Bakersfield, Vt., April 23, 1839, and graduated from Williams College, 1855. After a preparation for the profession he was a lawyer at Vergennes, Vt., until 1870, when he entered Andover Theological Seminary, graduating in 1873. After his successful pastorate in Plymouth, Mr. Scott pursued a post-graduate course at Andover, and became acting pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Lawrence, the oldest and largest Congregational church in Kansas. He remained two years. Returning East he was pastor one year at Rockland, Me., and was installed over the First Church of Ipswich, Mass., Dec. 31, 1884. He was dismissed 1891, and he has been pastor of the Congregational Church of Atkinson since April 1, 1893.

During the ministry of Rev. Mr. Scott there were two seasons of revival, and he left the church enlarged and united, and a successor was chosen with an unusual expression of unity and satisfaction. For a third time the prayer of the church was answered at Andover. From the senior class of the seminary, the bountiful mother of the ministry, a candidate was selected. Rev. Henry Porter Peck was ordained and installed June 1, 1882. The sermon was preached by Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D.D., of Boston. The charge to the pastor was by Rev. Henry A. Hazen, D.D., and the address to the people by Rev. Cyrus Richardson, D.D.

The ministry of Mr. Peck was successful and unusually satisfactory to the church and the congregation. He is an able and instructive preacher and a generous friend of all the people. His

church and parish duties were well performed, and the memory of his ministry is pleasant and enduring. He was dismissed, at his request, Sept. 16, 1889.

Rev. Henry Porter Peck, son of Rev. Henry North and Ada (Porter) Peck, was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., Oct. 25, 1853. He was left an orphan in infancy and passed the years of childhood in the home of his grandfather, William Kellogg Peck, in Norfolk, Conn. He graduated from Amherst College, 1878, and pursued a two years' course of study at Auburn (N. Y.) Theological Seminary. He entered Andover Theological Seminary in 1880, graduating in 1882. After his appreciated labors in this town he was installed over the Second Congregational Church of Winsted, Conn., where he remained nearly three years. He was pastor of the Congregational Church in Milford nearly seven years, resigning in 1899. After two years of rest and study in Boston he became pastor of the Congregational Church in Mount Vernon and principal of the McCollom Institute. (See Volume II.)

Mr. Peck left the church and society in a prosperous condition, and an early effort to settle a worthy successor was eminently successful. Rev. Frank G. Clark was installed Jan. 2, 1900. The services were memorable in the introduction of several ministers well known to the people of Plymouth. Rev. Cyrus Richardson, D.D., delivered the sermon, Rev. Arthur N. Ward the charge to the pastor, Rev. Henry A. Hazen, D.D., the address to the people. The invocation was by Rev. F. J. Ward, and the installation prayer by Rev. John L. Merrill.

Mr. Clark came to Plymouth with the established reputation of an able preacher and a wise and efficient director of parish affairs. During his ministry the church has been united and over one hundred have been added to the roll of membership. The parish has been strengthened, the congregation has increased, and the annual contributions to benevolence have exceeded any former period in the history of the church.

The ministry of Mr. Clark in Plymouth was one of solidity, strength, and progress. Knowing every member of the congrega-

tion, he faithfully ministered to all. His labors were incessant, and his influence and instruction will be permanent and salutary. In the midst of his usefulness his health failed and he asked for a dismissal. A mutual council convened, and with sincere expressions of regret on the part of the assembled clergy, and sorrow on the part of the church and congregation, the relations were dissolved in 1904.

Added to his pastoral labor in this town, Mr. Clark attended many councils and the stated meetings of the clergy. During the term of his ministry in Plymouth he was an active member of the Home Missionary Society, and was one of the presidents of the Central New Hampshire Congregational Club. In the work of the auxiliary societies Mrs. Clark was willing and efficient, and her labor and counsel are kindly remembered.

Rev. Frank Gray Clark, son of James Lindsay and Hannah (Baldwin) Clark, was born in Lyndeborough Feb. 22, 1838, and graduated from Amherst College, 1862, and Andover Theological Seminary, 1869. He was the principal of Francestown Academy, 1862-67, and was a delegate of the Christian Commission at Petersburg, Va., in the summer of 1864. Mr. Clark was ordained at Francestown, Sept. 2, 1869, and he hopefully and successfully entered upon the labors and responsibilities of the ministry at Manchester, where he was the city missionary over three years. In this field of labor, with constant sympathy, he delivered the divine messages of his Master to the poor and the neglected, and comforted the sick and the bereaved in many homes. His industry and success were warmly commended by the clergy of the city. His first pastorate was in Rindge. He was installed June 3, 1873, and dismissed, at his request, Dec. 31, 1878. He had previously received a call from the Evangelical Congregational Church (now Trinity) of Gloucester, Mass., and was there installed Jan. 28, 1879, and dismissed April 1, 1888. He resided about two years in West Medford, Mass., supplying the First and the Pilgrim churches in Nashua ten Sabbaths each, and was six months acting pastor at Arlington, Mass. Since his ministry in this town he

has resided in Wellesley, Mass., removing from Plymouth in May, 1904.

Mr. Clark was succeeded by Rev. Clinton W. Wilson, who began his labor in July, 1904, and who has preached as stated supply until the present time.

Rev. Clinton W. Wilson, son of Rev. Amos E. and Frances (Parker) Wilson, was born in Phoenix, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1864. He is a representative of a ministerial family. His father has filled important pastorates at Lansing, Mich., Lowell, Mass., and is now pastor of the Free Baptist Church at Dover. His grandfather, Rev. Joseph Wilson, was a faithful pastor in New York and New Jersey until a few years previous to his death in 1877.

Mr. Wilson was educated at Mexico (N. Y.) Academy and at Hillsdale and Hamilton colleges, taking his degree from Hamilton in 1887. Before he entered the ministry Mr. Wilson studied law and was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court at Binghamton, N. Y., Sept. 22, 1887. He early decided to enter the ministry, and became the pastor of the First Congregational Church at Hartford, N. Y., where he was ordained May 15, 1890. He pursued a course of theological study, which was supplemented by a special course at Oberlin Theological Seminary in 1891 and 1892. He has filled important pastorates over the First Congregational Church, Ogdensburg, N. Y.; Park Avenue Congregational Church, Meadville, Pa.; and the Centre Street Congregational Church, Ashland, O. During his ministry in this church his health has not been firm, and he has been denied the pleasure of the full amount of parish work that his devotion to his profession has prompted. He is an able and accomplished preacher. His sermons are prepared with care, and he preaches without the aid of notes or manuscript.

If ready to accept some enlargement of its creed, the church of Plymouth has remained steadfast to the fundamental principles of the Congregational order. Over the church nine ministers have been installed; and in this connection there should be

a mention of the ministry of Rev. Jonathan Ward, who preached eleven years without installation. The church has been fortunate in the selection of pastors; none have died in office, and all were dismissed at their request and with the regret of the church and congregation. Each pastor has been an earnest laborer in the vineyard planted by the fathers in the wilderness and has gathered fruits according to the measure of his faith and tillage.

During the ministry of Mr. Ward two meeting-houses were built by the town. The first house of worship was built in 1768, or four years after the first settlement. In March, 1767, the town voted to build the meeting-house "on the hill west side Mr. Ward's house," and amended this location by a vote "that Mr. Josiah Browns and half a mile above the foard way over Bacors river on the Cohos road be the two extremes to Mesher from and Build the meeting house in the midway between them." This vote also was reconsidered, and in April, 1767, it was determined that "the meeting house shall stand on Lott number six on Baker's river raing." In March, 1768, the town voted to reconsider all former votes, and began again at the beginning. During the discussion of twelve months concerning the location of the contemplated meeting-house, the opinions of all were maturing, and at this meeting the town apparently unanimously voted "to set the Meeting house on the fifth lot in number on Bakers River Raing in the most convenient place near the Road." This vote was not changed. At the same meeting the town chose Jacob Merrill, David Webster, and James Hobart "to build the meeting house as soon as may bee." These votes were not changed, and without further instructions from the town the first meeting-house in Plymouth was built at the foot of Ward Hill.

The house was occupied during the following winter, and at the annual meeting in March, 1769, the town directed "that the committee chosen to build the meeting house proceed to make the meeting house comfortable to meet in." This vote was repeated in March, 1770, by instructions that the committee "pro-

ceed to finish the meeting house so far as to make it comfortable to meet in."

The committee evidently completed the work to the satisfaction of the town. No additional measures were proposed until the final vote in March, 1772, "to sell the ground for Pews, as it now is, to the highest bidder, viz. those Pews on the left hand of the Pulpit at Six o' the Clock this evening at the house of Ensign David Webster."

Rev. Henry A. Hazen, who was permitted to converse with persons who were born before the first meeting-house was destroyed, furnishes an excellent description of the building in the Centennial Discourses delivered in 1765. "It was about forty by fifty feet, and two stories high with glazed windows. It had galleries on three sides. There was a square pew in each corner and an elder's seat. The rest of the floor was occupied with long seats on each side of a central aisle."

Such were the general features and such was the manner of building the first meeting-house in Plymouth. It was the first building dedicated to the worship of God in Grafton County. If the house was small and unpretentious, and if from a modern standpoint it was rude in construction and unsightly in appearance, it was a vivid expression of the piety, self-denial, and sacrifice of the builders. Compared with the wealth of the settlement, and their limited facilities for construction, it was a more costly temple than the massive structures of modern times.

In this humble house the people worshipped twenty years. Here children's children were baptized and the virtues of the dead were the theme of funeral discourse. Here during the Revolution were offered fervent prayers for country and home, and here, when victory ended war, arose the praise of a grateful congregation to the God who moulds the fortunes of armies and directs the destiny of nations. Here in springtime at the sowing was observed a day of fasting and humiliation, and here at harvest was heard the songs of praise and the voice of thanksgiving. The little log church at the foot of Ward Hill was an impressive

expression of the piety and devotion, of the faith and sacrifice of the worthy fathers who founded Plymouth.

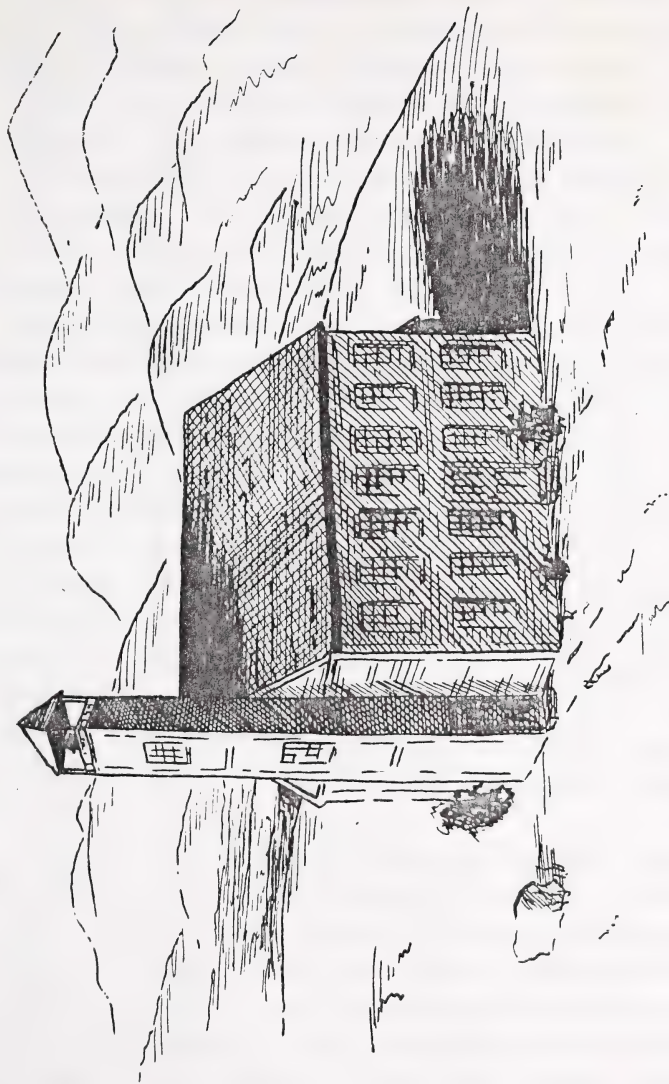
Scarcely had the immediate burdens of the Revolution been met and overcome before the people of Plymouth began to contemplate the building of a new and larger house of worship. The town had increased in wealth and population, and to the argument of necessity was added the plea of convenience. The building of the second meeting-house could not long be deferred. The town meetings of any community echo the voice of public sentiment upon the issues of the time. An affirmative proposition to build was adopted in 1783, and Isaac Ward presented a lot on which to build the house. Through the delay of votes to amend, to reconsider, and to postpone, the decisive action was not secured until March, 1787, when the town voted "to proceed to build the meeting (house) upon the plan already accepted by the town and to raise £100 towards building the same to be paid in merchantable wheat and pees at five shillings, rie at four shillings and Indian corn at three shillings per bushel by the twenty fifth day of December next." At a later meeting it was voted "that no person shall have liberty to pay more than one fourth part of their proportion in Pees." James Blodgett, Jr., was chosen to collect the tax, and William George, Capt. Benjamin Goold, and Lieut. Elisha Bean "to engage some person or persons to procure the whole of the timber for the meeting house, as cheap as they possibly can, and to have said timber halled to the spot completely fit for raising."

The last meeting adjourned to meet Thursday, April 12, 1787. At this date the record proceeds: "Met according to adjournment and it being Fast Day the moderator [Francis Worcester] adjourned the meeting to next day." At this meeting the town reaffirmed several former votes, and expressed a desire to prosecute the work as speedily as possible. The town also ordered "that the dimensions of said house on the ground be fifty six by forty-four feet," and Jacob Merrill and Lieut. Richard Bayley were selected to "place the sills," and ample arrangements were

made for the raising, which occurred in October, 1787. A few weeks later the first meeting-house was burned, and for a season meetings were held in a spacious barn of King George, near the present residence of Mrs. Solomon A. Smith on Rumney road and at the house of Col. David Webster, on the site of the Pemigewasset House. The original minutes of the town meetings which are preserved present the foregoing facts, and from other sources it appears that after the frame was raised the town selected a committee, consisting of Samuel Emerson, Esq., Dr. John Rogers, and Maj. Stephen Wells, to complete the building. It was occupied as a house of worship about the close of the year 1788. Many of the following items concerning the cost and appearance of the building are credited to Historical Sketch of the Meeting Houses, prepared with great labor by Rev. Frank G. Clark, 1896.

The second meeting-house stood on the lot immediately west of the schoolhouse on Ward Hill. The land was presented by Isaac Ward, a son of the first minister, and in consideration of the same he was awarded the first choice of a pew. The house cost £574 9s. 3d. There were forty-six pews on the main floor, and the pew rights sold for £428 2s. 9d. In 1796 thirty-six pews were built in the galleries. There was a porch at the east and west ends and an entrance at each porch, and also an entrance on the south side. A broad aisle led from the south door to the pulpit. There were two rows of windows of seven by nine glass, and the wood finish was plain and substantial. The pulpit, on the north side, was as solid as the tenets of a creed. The minister preached to two audiences, one upon the floor and another in the galleries, and the pulpit midway was approached by a stairway. In the centre of the audience-room and on three sides there were square pews, and between the side and the central pews there were three narrow aisles. To each pew there was a door and there was added the ancient finish of top rail and spindles. The singers occupied a section of the gallery opposite the pulpit.

The exterior of the house was covered with plain boards and remained without finish until 1806, when the town appropriated



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH ON WARD'S HILL, 1830

four hundred dollars and directed that the building be clap-boarded and that the exterior and interior be painted. At the same time an electric rod was procured and the inhabitants were given permission to erect a belfry without expense to the town. A belfry was subsequently erected by extending in height the west porch. The expense was paid by subscription. In 1827 a bell costing \$382.27 was purchased with the voluntary offerings of the people. The bell was rung the first time November 12, and was tolled at the funeral of the widow of Judge Samuel Emerson, who was buried Nov. 23, 1727.

Concerning the lighting and warming of the two early meeting-houses there is no record or tradition of any event, unlike the story of nearly all the meeting-houses of the same time. Foot-stoves containing small pans of hot coals were in common use, and were passed from one to another during the long service of former generations. Stoves were procured for the second meeting-house in 1823. The meeting-house was jointly occupied by the church and by the town, in a manner and for purposes well understood, until 1836, when a new meeting-house was built in which the town had no interest or control. The second meeting-house was occupied for town purposes until 1865. It was then used for storage and sold at auction. In 1877 it was removed to Campton and used for a sawmill until it was destroyed by fire Feb. 19, 1884.

Until 1836 the Congregationalists of this town worshipped in the first and second meeting-houses on Ward Hill. Both houses were built by the town, acting in the capacity of a parish. The church and society possessed the right of holding stated religious services, and the town used the buildings for municipal meetings. This joint occupancy invited controversy concerning the use and the repair of the building. There was a growing sentiment in Plymouth and elsewhere that the audience-room of the church and the townhall should be separate. With the advent of Mr. Punchard, a young and a progressive man, the church and the society were strengthened and were animated with new hope and

enlarged ambition. The conditions suggested a new meeting-house and one owned and controlled by the society. The Congregationalists withdrew from the second meeting-house, leaving the town in sole occupancy of the building. The town was not called upon to take action in the premises, and for this reason there is no mention of the subject in the town records.

With the society acting for the church and congregation, the location of a new meeting-house was a subject of universal interest and grave import. Nearly seventy years the succession of worshippers had assembled from Sabbath to Sabbath at Ward Hill. The place was hallowed by memories both tender and grave. Here were the ministrations of Father Ward, Rev. Fairbank, and Rev. Jonathan Ward; here were baptized the infants of two generations; here had been spoken the funeral eulogy of many pious fathers and mothers; and here had arisen the prayer and the praise of many years. Added to every measure of sentiment, the location was central. In the meantime the village on the Pemigewasset had assumed considerable importance and an equal ambition to become the centre of affairs, as it was of trade.

The existing conditions concerning the location of the third meeting-house in Plymouth invited a bitter contest. Happily a war of preference and opinion was averted. The villagers were alert and won the victory before the opposition had prepared to resist. John Rogers, William Wallace Russell, and Noah Cummings, without submitting any propositions to the church or society, purchased a site and erected a meeting-house with a boldness and celerity that lessened the opposition and gained the friendly approval of very many.

The land owned by the society was purchased of the county, and is a part of the land sold to the county in 1822 by William Webster. The frame of the house was raised amid great rejoicing July 4, 1836, and was dedicated in December following. Rev. George Punchard preached the sermon, and the house was first occupied by the church in regular service Sunday, Jan. 1, 1837. During the early use of the new meeting-house a petition was

preferred by King George, Arthur Ward, and a few others, who had not overcome their love for the old meeting-house, that service for their convenience and pleasure be held in the old meeting-house one-third of the time. The petition was dismissed, and no other reference to the subject appears in the records. In a search for material concerning the features of the third meeting-house, and an account of the repairs made with the progress of years, nothing is found not included in the Historical Sketch of the Meeting Houses prepared by Rev. Frank G. Clark and printed 1896. From this sketch the remainder of this chapter is quoted.

“The frame was seventy by forty-seven feet and of such huge dimensions that, if sawed, it would about furnish lumber enough to build a modern meeting-house. The windows were large and rectangular in shape, the pulpit was nearer the end of the audience-room than at present, and box-like in shape, with a door on each side. There were two aisles, as now, with seventy-four pews, sixteen in a row and five on each side of the pulpit. These pews had doors that fastened with a button, with the design, it may be, to keep the children within proper bounds. The gallery over the vestibule was wider than now and extended over the back pews, thus providing space for four rows of pews at each end of it, and the middle portion was occupied by the choir. At first the church was heated by a stove at the west end of each aisle and near the pulpit; later they were removed to the east end of the church under the gallery and running through the partition, so that the stove doors were in the vestibule. This method was too much like a fire trap, and the stoves were soon placed in the rear of the middle of the audience-room. For years the stovepipes extended nearly the whole length of the church over the aisles, to the serious detriment of the carpet. As early as 1839 the society appointed a committee ‘to see as to the propriety of building a furnace under this house if they think it expedient to build one,’ but as no report is recorded they probably doubted the expediency of the plan. This house was a popular place for public assemblies of various kinds, and

there was so much feeling at the beginning of the anti-slavery movement that for years the society had annually the following article in the warrant: 'To choose a committee to say on what occasions this house shall be opened and on what occasions it shall not be opened.'

"In 1844 the society appointed a committee to make some arrangements in regard to the musical instrument. This was a seraphine, and one hundred dollars, raised by subscription, was paid to Charles Austin for it. A little later the society voted two dollars for blowing the seraphine for a year and a vote of thanks to Mrs. Thompson for playing it for a year. This kind of pay was evidently unsatisfactory to the friends of Mrs. Thompson, and a handsome present was given her.

"In 1845 there is the first reference to the insurance of the building, and it was stipulated that in case of fire the money was to be paid to the society and not to the pewholders.

"In 1849 lamps were provided for the church at an expense of fifty dollars. For several years unsuccessful efforts were made to secure a chapel, but in 1851 a committee was chosen to select a place and build one, and the old chapel, as we now call it, thirty-three by twenty-four feet, was built on land of the county and continued to be used until Jan. 1, 1894. It was built by subscription and cost about six hundred dollars. The carpenter work was done by David Merrill and Sylvester D. Merrill, his son.

"In 1855 the ceiling of the church was frescoed in panels and an arch represented in the rear of the pulpit.

"In 1865 some effort was made to repair the meeting-house, but nothing was done until the autumn of 1868, when one thousand dollars was raised by a tax on the pewholders and one thousand dollars was secured by subscription. The house was shingled and painted outside and in, the present Gothic windows were put in, costing forty-five dollars each, the gallery was made smaller, the doors of the pews were removed and arms substituted, the pulpit enclosure was removed and a pulpit procured. A carpet was purchased by the Ladies' Social Circle, also a large chande-

lier and two smaller ones, with bracket lamps for the sides, the Circle expending five hundred dollars. Of this amount \$143.35 was paid for the chandeliers. The committee on repairs were Deacon Washington George, Arthur Ward, Joseph A. Dodge, James McQuesten, and Deacon William W. Russell.

"The Ladies' Social Circle has been a strong arm of the church and society ever since its organization, March 11, 1858. At the time of these repairs just mentioned they raised large sums of money by fairs, lectures, and personal effort. Having done so much they were soon ready for still more vigorous campaigns in the work of the church. In January, 1872, inspired by their pastor, Rev. Cyrus Richardson, they were the leaders in securing a fine second-hand pipe organ for ten hundred and fifty dollars, from the first Baptist Church, Fall River. Mr. George W. Bailey was employed to build an organ recess in the rear of the pulpit, twenty-one feet wide and fourteen deep, with an arched roof, and to change the pulpit platform and arrange seats for the choir. About two thousand dollars were expended by the Social Circle at this time. The organ recess cost four hundred and fifty dollars, the pulpit fifty dollars, and the chairs ninety dollars. The committee of the society who had the oversight of the work were Arthur Ward, George W. Bailey, and Deacon William W. Russell. The next year, 1873, the society voted to build a parsonage, and in the spring of 1874 a lot was purchased of John S. Tufts for eight hundred dollars and the present parsonage constructed for forty-one hundred dollars, a total cost of nearly five thousand dollars. This large amount was raised by voluntary subscriptions. There was one pledge of one thousand dollars, one of six hundred, two of five hundred, one of three hundred, and one of one hundred dollars, and a large number ranging from five to twenty-five dollars. The Ladies' Social Circle contributed two hundred and fifty dollars, and the last eight hundred dollars were paid May, 1875, by the additional and generous gift of Mr. James McQuesten. The building committee were Arthur Ward, George W. Bailey, William W. Russell, Washington

George, and James McQuesten. The house was built by John F. Maynard.

“The same year the meeting-house was provided with lightning rods.

“In 1881 the pewholders were taxed six hundred dollars for repairs, and the meeting-house and vestry were painted outside and in, the roof of the church was slated at a cost of one hundred and seventy-two dollars, and other minor repairs made amounting to about seven hundred dollars. The Ladies’ Social Circle in 1882, Rev. Henry P. Peck, pastor, provided a new carpet for the church costing nearly four hundred dollars, and cushioned and upholstered the pews at an expense of four hundred and twenty-eight dollars. They held three fairs during the year and raised about eight hundred dollars. They also made extensive repairs on the parsonage at this time and paid the insurance on the church. This Ladies’ Social Circle has always stood ready to help improve the condition of the Congregational church and society; it has lifted many financial burdens and made many impossible things possible. In 1890 it furnished the parsonage with a kitchen range and window shades, and the parish built a stable, woodshed, and carriage house; the buildings were thoroughly painted, the rooms papered, and a bathroom provided, Deacon William W. Russell giving largely to these improvements.

“For several years there was a prevailing feeling that the church was in sore need of better accommodations for prayer meetings and social purposes. The chapel was small and poorly ventilated and had no conveniences for social gatherings. The heating arrangements of the church were also unsatisfactory, and various plans were considered for remedying these discomforts; but nothing definite was done until January, 1893, when Mr. George H. Guernsey, an architect and builder of Montpelier, Vt., was consulted, who submitted plans and estimates for raising the church about three feet and building a new chapel in the rear of the church and on land owned by the society. Pledges were circulated asking for six thousand dollars, to be used in making

these proposed changes. At the annual meeting of the parish, March 15, 1893, this amount was reported as pledged, and the society voted to make the proposed improvements, provided no debt was incurred. The committee who had the oversight of the work were Deacon Jason Clark, Plummer Fox, Amos M. Kidder, and Rev. Frank G. Clark, the pastor.

"During the year the church was raised two and one-half feet, a cellar excavated, and a solid stone foundation laid. Two new chimneys were built, and brick foundations for the furnaces were laid in cement. Drainpipe was laid entirely around the cellar, also Akron pipe was laid from kitchen and toilet-rooms, and all were connected with the street sewer, and hydrant water was brought into the building. Two of Richardson and Boynton's furnaces were put in to heat the church and chapel. At the west end of the church a building was erected, covering the organ loft, wide enough to provide a passageway from the church to the chapel on each side of the organ, with a cloak-room for the choir and another for the minister. There was also provided a hallway in the rear of the organ, with a stairway leading to cloak and toilet rooms above. Beyond this hallway was built the chapel, fifty-six by thirty-six feet, with a truss roof, thus providing a large audience-room that can be made into three by means of draperies. Ash finish was used, a hardwood floor laid, and the room, which will seat three hundred, was furnished with chairs, rubber tipped, and having racks for hats and books. The best of ventilation was secured by an open fireplace. Over these rooms was provided a large dining-room, kitchen, and china closet with ample cupboards and shelves, all finished in spruce. The rooms above and below are all well lighted and cheery, and well supplied with electric lights. The piano, window shades, pulpit, clock, chairs, umbrella holders, cook stove, table silver, and other kitchen and dining-room furniture were donated by individuals; the choir, Sunday-school classes, and the Christian Endeavor Society and the Ladies' Social Circle did their full share of the good work. The amount expended at the time may be approximately stated as follows:—

Carpenter work and material	\$4,110.00
Stone work, raising the church and excavation	2,723.00
Mason work and material	500.00
Painting	115.00
Furnaces, plumbing, furnishings, including electric lights	1,460.00
Total	<u>\$8,909.00</u>

"When this work on the chapel and basement of the church was completed, and the bills paid, it was found to the disappointment of all that there was no money left to renovate the audience-room, though much more money had been pledged than the estimated amount required, and almost every pledge had been promptly paid — a remarkable record, considering the hard times of 1893. The chapel was used for the first time Jan. 6, 1894, for a preparatory lecture, and the next day, Sunday, the Sunday school met there.

"The times were such that it did not seem possible to raise any more money, and the outlook was discouraging. To add to the difficulty, it was found that the top of the church tower was in an unsafe condition, and must be rebuilt at once. If this was to be done there were those who felt that it was better to make a special effort to raise funds sufficient to secure all of the necessary improvements. Feb. 5, 1895, pledges were circulated asking for two thousand dollars additional for this purpose. The pledges were so prompt and generous that work on the audience-room began March 25. A contract was made with W. L. Wedger & Co. of Boston to provide and decorate a metal ceiling and walls for the audience-room and vestibule at a cost of \$1,169.83. A tower of larger dimensions was built by H. W. Sweetzer of Camp-ton, and all the buildings were thoroughly painted by Fifield and Kelley. Electric lights were furnished, the seats of the pews were made a little wider, the pulpit platform was improved, and the steps to the choir gallery removed, and other minor improvements made. The Ladies' Social Circle provided a new carpet and new railing and drapery for the front of the gallery, and renovated the upholstering of the pews.

"The amount expended for improvements in this last effort is a little over twenty-two hundred dollars. The total amount paid for running expenses *and* improvements in the three years 1893, 1894, and 1895 is over sixteen thousand dollars, an average of over five thousand dollars a year and over one hundred dollars for each week. It seems almost incredible that so large a sum should have been raised, as free gifts, in a town of this size, and it abundantly shows that the people were enthusiastic and united in their efforts and willing to make many personal sacrifices in the interests of the church. The enthusiasm extended to former residents and natives of the town, who aided generously in the work, thus showing loyalty to the home and church of their childhood. Our meeting-house is now convenient, commodious, and comely. That which was so earnestly desired for so many years has been secured. The money for the work has been provided with willing minds, and nearly every family in the parish has helped to bear the burden. The smallest amount, pledged by a child, was twenty-five cents, and the largest sum, pledged by a family, was two thousand four hundred and twenty-five dollars."

Under the auspices of the Congregational Church, Bible lessons for the young were maintained each Sabbath in the schoolhouses for several years during and succeeding the ministry of Rev. Jonathan Ward. In 1837, under the encouragement of Rev. George Punchard, a Sunday school was established. The sessions were in the meeting-house during the intermission between the morning and the afternoon service. The school has been maintained until the present time, and since 1858 a record of attendance has been preserved. The smallest number of scholars was 125, in 1875, and the same number in 1879. The largest number was 301, in 1899. The superintendents have been William Green, William W. Russell, Sr., Alvah McQuesten, David C. Webster, Washington George, William W. Russell, Jr., Silas H. Pearl, Rev. David Connell, Ambrose P. Kelsey, William H. Raymond, Rev. George H. Scott, Rev. Henry P. Peck, John Keniston, William W. Russell, Jr., second term, Frank E. Alden, Seeva Speare,

A. J. Grout, Jared Smith, and John Keniston, second term, the present superintendent.

Whoever attempts to name the deacons during the ministry of Rev. Nathan Ward will regret the absence of the early church records, and if wise will approach conclusions with caution. It is certain that John Willoughby was a deacon from the completed organization of the church until his death in 1834. It was a long and an honorable service.

Francis Worcester came to Plymouth in 1768. He had been a deacon of the church in Hollis over twenty years. He was elected deacon soon after his removal to this town, and faithfully served the church until his death in 1800.

Joshua Fletcher was called to the office as early as 1794. He removed to Bridgewater 1802, and continued his connection with the church in Plymouth, and served as deacon until 1818, when he was dismissed to the church in Bridgewater.

In 1801 Benjamin Goold and Jotham Cummings, Jr., were elected. Deacon Goold died in 1804, and Deacon Cummings removed from town in 1811.

Asa Robbins and Ebenezer Bartlett were elected deacons in 1805. Deacon Bartlett died in 1832 and Deacon Robbins in 1835.

The following persons have succeeded: Deacon James Morrison, 1831-36; Deacon Alvah McQuesten, 1834-67; Deacon David Clough Webster, 1856-62; Deacon Washington George, 1863-76; Deacon William Wallace Russell, Jr., 1868-92; Deacon Simeon Sanborn, 1872-78; Deacon Jason Clark, 1878-95; Deacon George Punchard Cook, since 1879; Deacon Lemuel L. Draper, 1880-99; Deacon Alfred Cook, since 1893; Deacon Seeva Speare, 1899, resigned 1900; Deacon William G. Hull, since 1900. Since 1891 the deacons have been elected for a term of four years and are eligible to re-election.

Stephen Webster, Stephen Webster, Jr., and Elisha Bean have been honored with a mention in the roll of the deacons. It is not probable, for reasons stated more fully in another chapter, that either of them at any time were members or deacons of this

church. They were Baptists. There was only one church in the town, and they probably attended the preaching of Mr. Ward and were at times chosen by the town on committees conducting parish affairs. Stephen Webster, often called Elder Webster, was a preacher of the Baptist faith, and Elisha Bean died in fellowship with the Baptist church in Rumney. Stephen Webster and Stephen Webster, Jr., were among the first to be excused by the town from the tax for the salary of Mr. Ward.

Since the close of the ministry of Rev. Nathan Ward the clerks of the church have been: Rev. Drury Fairbank, 1800-18; Jonathan Cummings, 1818-19; Rev. Jonathan Ward, 1819-29; William Green, 1829-45; Rev. William Reed Jewett, 1845-62; Charles Hazelton, 1862-64; Rev. Henry A. Hazen, 1864-67; Deacon William W. Russell, 1867-79; William H. Raymond, 1879-84; Deacon William W. Russell, 1884-92; Mrs. Martha C. (Ward) Russell, 1892-97; Mrs. Annie A. (Huckins) Blaisdell, since 1897.

The pastor and the deacons for many years constituted the church committee. Since 1863 William H. Reed, Simeon Sanborn, James McQuesten, William G. Cook, Charles Hazelton, Jason Clark, Arthur Ward, George P. Cook, Frederic W. A. Robie, Henry Cummings, Frederick W. Ballou, Lemuel L. Draper, Perley Fossett, William Thornton, William H. Raymond, John H. Whitten, Alfred Cook, John Keniston, Alvah M. Merrill, Horace Alden, Joseph W. Atwood are former auxiliary members of the committee. The present members are J. E. S. Fifield and Solon Evans.

The following table presents an exhibit of membership, deaths, dismissal, additions, attendance at Sunday school, and collections for charitable objects, so far as facts are preserved, since 1819. During this period the whole number from whom fellowship has been withdrawn is twenty-nine. The contributions or collections are exclusive of all stated parish expenses.

DATE.	MEMBERS.		ADDITIONS.	DISMISSED.	DEATHS.	BAPTISMS.		SUNDAY SCHOOL.	CONTRIBUTIONS.	ABSENT.
	Male.	Female.				Adults.	Infants.			
1819	20	41								
1820	21	44								
1821	23	48								
1822	27	61								
1823	27	61								
1824	20	52								
1825	20	52								
1826	19	51								
1827	19	50	2							
1828	18	47								
1829	22	66	19							
1830	42	78	33							
1831	51	94	28							
1832	71	117	46							
1833	No return									
1834	66	122	7	8	3	2	4			
1835	No return									
1836	68	144	23	2	3	16	6		\$162	
1837	62	121	2	7	7		2		313	
1838	63	136	8	3	7	1	8			
1839	65	127	5	7	4		9			
1840	62	126	3	3	5	2	8			
1841	53	102	9	11	9	3	6			
1842	53	102	3	3	3		7			
1843	No return									
1844			1	6	1		7			
1845				3	1		6			
1846	44	98	10	2	4	1	7			
1847	42	104	11	5	2	2	10			
1848	49	114	21	2	2					
1849	48	120	12		7	1	4			
1850	47	121	4		4	1	3			
1851	46	124	4		2		5			
1852	46	120	2	1		4	5			
1853	45	120	3	3	1	1	4			
1854	42	116	3	4	5	1				
1855	41	107	1	8	1		2		450	
1856	40	96	1	6	6		7		455	
1857	39	100	6	1	1	4	1		300	
1858	30	78	2	7	4		2	165		36
1859	30	74	5	5	4	1	4	160		34
1860	30	70	1	3	1			160		34
1861	36	103	1		1	1		165		32
1862	33	104	2	1	3		2	130		32
1863	34	94	7		3		4	170		36
1864	35	94	7	6		2		160		31
1865	33	100	9	2	3	2	5	140	480	33
1866	30	93		4	6		1	140	460	33
1867	31	97	10	3	2	5		150	295	34
1868	30	91	6	7	4	2	2	160	443	29
1869	26	90						136	115	32
1870	41	115	26		2	20		130	285	34
1871	34	119	13	2	3	6		233	370	28
1872	29	116	9		9			233	311	24
1873	33	116	8	1	3	3	1	150	200	27



DATE.	MEMBERS.		ADDITIONS.	DISMISSED.	DEATHS.	BAPTISMS.		SUNDAY SCHOOL.	CONTRIBUTIONS.	ABSENT.
	Male.	Female.				Adults.	Infants.			
1874	34	121	20	3	5	16		167	131	25
1875	32	129	10		6	8		125	233	29
1876	34	136	19	2	7	4		260	158	30
1877	31	135	2			1	1	250	284	28
1878	44	151	35	4	2	23	1	175	255	34
1879	47	159	15	4	3	1		125	247	39
1880	49	158	7	2	6		4	150	302	36
1881	47	157	1	3	4		1	150	225	36
1882	46	154	10	7	4	4		150	91	35
1883	44	153		2	1			145	86	38
1884	45	149	1	6			3	200	41	35
1885	32	127	3	6	7	2			167	64
1886	38	120	7	6	4	3	1		109	51
1887	37	121	3		4	2		148	63	54
1888	37	115		6	1			138	26	49
1889	35	110		2	5			128	130	51
1890	34	110	3	2	2	3	13	180	117	51
1891	36	101	11	3	4	6	3	186	221	32
1892	32	99	14	15	1	1		201	271	16
1893	31	98	4		6		1	210	706	17
1894	31	100	6	2	2	3		217	1442	17
1895	32	100	7	3	2	4		242	265	12
1896	35	103	13	4	3	2		272	490	12
1897	39	106	9	1	1	3		272	524	14
1898	41	103	2		3			280	300	16
1899	46	110	17	1	4	9	3	301	330	17
1900	46	108	6	5	3	5		299	445	15
1901	41	104	4	7	4	3	2	274	341	15
1902	38	103	3	5	2		1	280	289	15
1903	36	104	8	3	4	2	3	272	298	16
1904	31	126	7	7	2	0	0	193	147	11

XVII. THE METHODIST CHURCH.

METHODIST churches were organized in many towns in this vicinity about 1800. In outline features the history of Methodism in different towns is very similar. The several communities were instructed by the same preachers, moving from town to town and laboring under a common control or supervision. The result was cohesion and symmetry. Everywhere the pioneer preachers of Methodism were inspired with equal and unfailing zeal and courage, and everywhere they met the indifferent opposition of the worldly, and at best a qualified welcome of the existing churches.

The immigration to northern New Hampshire was from the south and the southeast. One hundred years ago the immigration from Grafton County was mainly to Vermont and to Canada. Rowing against the current of immigration, the early Methodist preachers came to this vicinity from Vermont and from New York. In this instance the course of empire was not westward.

The early Methodist preachers came at an opportune season. The harvest was ripe and the reapers were ready. In nearly every community there was one church of the standing order, which had been founded soon after the settlement of the town. It was a sole occupant of the field. Over each of them "the learned orthodox minister" was settled for life and preached without a rival. He was an earnest and a solemn laborer. Austere in manner, pure in mind, and diligent and faithful as a pastor, he dedicated the years of his devoted life to his Master and labored for his people according to the models and standards of his time. His counsel was the voice of wisdom, but his sympathy and fellowship were congealed in the solemnity of his presence. With

formal precision he visited the sick and comforted the mourner in learned phrases which grief could not accept and the mind comprehend. His sermons, the full product of hours of prayer and study, were pure and instructive. Measured by the standard of his school, they were free from heresy, and to the emotional element of his hearers, they were equally free from the gentle, tender words of love and sympathy. Even on the Sabbath he was removed from his people and preached to them from the altitude of an old-time pulpit, with deacons in sculptured solemnity seated at the corner posts. Nothing could add to the rigidity of the surroundings except a tithingman, and he was ever present with a staff of office.

The old-time minister, in the annals of New England, is a grand and noble character. He filled his mission with precision and served his generation with devotion and an exalted purpose. The altitude of the old-time pulpit was not a freak of architecture. It was an apt expression of the people to raise a pedestal for their minister. Here they placed him while preaching, and throughout the week their attitude compelled him to walk upon an even plane above them. They addressed with reverence, and if any loved him, they loved him with an element of awe that suffered no passage of the gulf that separated him from the hearts of his people. In this rigid expression of the time the people were more blamable than the minister. In all their relations his heart was as hungry and as unsatisfied as their own. So far as the minister was faithful and the people were reverent they lived up to the standard of the time, but alas, they bereaved themselves of the solace of friendship and the flavor of brotherly love.

Such were the conditions prevailing in many towns when the pioneer preachers of Methodism, the heralds of a new creed, announced their message to their fellowmen. Their early success arose more from the zeal and manner of the preacher than from the matter of the discourse. They lived among the people, they were entertained in their homes, and when not engaged in preaching they organized classes and secured the service of associated

effort. They preached in dwellings, in barns, and in the groves, and while preaching they stood among their hearers. Wisely assuming that the learned clergy had instructed the people in a knowledge of the Bible and of the Christian religion, they asserted the tenets peculiar to their church. If they appealed to the emotions of men, they satisfied a hunger of the soul which doctrinal and learned sermons could not appease, and if at times they became fervid and impassioned in manner, they felt a responsive emotion in the worship of the multitude.

These conditions and results attending the early Methodist preachers in many places were not fully developed in Plymouth. The reason is apparent. The early settlers were Congregationalists. Rev. Nathan Ward, their devoted pastor, was affectionate and sympathetic, and while he moulded and solidified the character of a generation, he avoided contention and intercepted disintegration. Methodist churches were established in near-by towns several years before one was founded in Plymouth.

The early Methodist preachers were zealous laborers. They visited many towns and preached many sermons in New Hampshire, of which a record is not preserved. Probably the first Methodist preacher in Grafton County was the eccentric Lorenzo Dow, who preached in several towns in this county, including Hebron, in 1797. In the autumn of 1802 Dow came again to Grafton County and visited Plymouth. He records the event in his journal:—

I came over the river into New Hampshire where I met Martin Ruter going to form a circuit. I saw Elijah R. Sabin who had been a zealous and useful preacher, but was now broken down and married and about to locate. I had meetings in Haverhill, then rode to Plymouth and Holderness and Meredith and Gilmanton, and the melting power of God seemed to be present in many places.

Concerning the dates of the organization of the early circuits, districts, and conferences, the historians of the Methodist church are not always in exact agreement. One gives the date of an act in the progress of organization and another dates from a subse-



quent event, but in general outlines all are in substantial agreement. In the early days of Methodism New Hampshire was included in the New London district of the New York conference. In 1801 a record appears of the Hawke, Chesterfield, Hanover, and Landaff circuits in this State. The Landaff circuit included Lancaster, Haverhill, Rumney, Bridgewater, and several adjoining towns. It is certain that the boundaries of the circuit were not clearly defined, and that the circuit preachers were expected to labor wherever called. Rev. John Brodhead was the presiding elder, and the circuit preachers were Elijah R. Sabin and Asher Smith. During the year Mr. Smith organized a class in Bridgewater, now Bristol. The proof is not preserved, but it is probable that Mr. Sabin or Mr. Smith preached in Plymouth in 1801. In 1802 the Vershire district of the New York conference, including eight circuits in Vermont and New Hampshire, was formed. Rev. John Brodhead was the presiding elder. The Bridgewater circuit included Bridgewater, Plymouth, Hebron, Groton, Alexandria Hill, Danbury, Salisbury, Andover, Holderness, New Hampton, Sanbornton, and Northfield. Reuben Jones was the circuit preacher. In the reorganization of 1803 the Bridgewater circuit of the New York conference was in the Vermont district, with Rev. Joseph Crawford presiding elder. Rev. Elijah Hedding was the circuit preacher.

The New England conference was severed from the New York conference in 1804. It embraced the New England States, except the part of Connecticut west of the Connecticut River. At the same time the New Hampshire district was organized, with Rev. John Brodhead presiding elder. Rev. Lewis Bates and Rev. Caleb Dustin were appointed to the Bridgewater circuit, including Plymouth. The Methodists of this town remained in the same circuit district and conference until the close of the year 1825, when Plymouth was severed from the Bridgewater circuit and many hallowed associations were interrupted. The preachers on the Bridgewater circuit were earnest and zealous men, and several are prominent in the annals of the church.

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Rev. Elijah Hedding, D.D., was born at White Plains, N. Y., June 7, 1780. In 1791 his parents removed to Starksboro, Vt. He was ordained a deacon July 4, 1803, and appointed that year to the Bridgewater circuit. He rode many miles each day preaching constantly. He was unable to endure the self-imposed hardship, and was an invalid several weeks in New Chester. He rode to Plymouth, and while in this town he was prostrated with inflammatory rheumatism and was kindly attended in the home of Elder Ebenezer Blodgett, where he remained four months. He was subsequently a presiding elder, and a bishop in 1824. The degree of D.D. was conferred by Augusta College, 1829, by Union College, 1837, and by University of Vermont, 1840. He was president of the Biblical Institute, Concord, several years. He died at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., April 9, 1852. There is a current tradition that Rev. Dr. Hedding preached the first sermon under the auspices of the Methodist church in this vicinity. The tradition is not probable. Mr. Hedding preached his first sermon March 26, 1800, and until he was appointed to the Bridgewater circuit he labored in western Vermont and in Canada. Rev. Asher Smith and Rev. Robert Jones had preached on the Bridgewater circuit two years before Rev. Elijah Hedding arrived in this vicinity. The tradition probably has an origin in the fact that Rev. Mr. Hedding, while filling the Bridgewater circuit in 1803, made an appointment to preach at a schoolhouse in Holderness, and when he arrived he was denied admission. He retired a short distance and, standing upon a large boulder, delivered a memorable sermon from the text: "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Rev. John Brodhead was born in Lower Smithfield, Pa., Oct. 22, 1770. He was an able preacher in the Middle and New England States several years, and was presiding elder of the New London, Conn., district in 1800 and 1801 and of the Vershire, Vt., district in 1802. In 1803 he was stationed at Hanover, and in 1804-06 he was presiding elder of the New Hampshire district, and the two years following of the Boston district. His subsequent appointments were in Rockingham County. He resided

several years in Newmarket. He was chaplain of the legislature, a State senator 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, 1825, 1826, representative in congress 1829-33. He died at Newmarket, April 17, 1838.

Rev. Martin Ruter, D.D., was born in Charlton, Mass., April 3, 1785, and was licensed to preach by the New York conference 1801. He was a learned man and an eloquent preacher. He was appointed to the Bridgewater circuit 1805, and four years later he was the presiding elder. Subsequently he filled many appointments with great ability, and was a leader in the educational work of the church. He founded a seminary at Newmarket, and was an able agent of the Western Book Concern, and president of several educational institutions. He died at Washington, Tex., May 16, 1838. Rev. Lewis Bates, the author of *Memorials of Methodism*, born 1780, was appointed to the circuit with Caleb Dustin, 1804. He was an able preacher, an earnest laborer, and for many years a distinguished minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. He died in Taunton, Mass., March 24, 1865. John Lewis Bates, former Governor of Massachusetts, is his great-grandson.

Rev. Benjamin Bishop, formerly a blacksmith of Lancaster, preached several years with a considerable measure of success. He was appointed to the Bridgewater circuit with the accomplished Martin Ruter, 1805.

In 1825, with some change of territory, the circuit was called the Bristol and Plymouth circuit, and in 1827 Plymouth was severed from Bristol and became a principal preaching station in the Plymouth circuit. By a division of the New England conference in 1829 the New Hampshire and Vermont conference was organized, and two years later, without change of territory, the name was changed to the New Hampshire conference. The Plymouth district, including several towns in Vermont, at this time was created, and the town of Plymouth belonged to the Plymouth district until 1840, to the Haverhill district until 1855, and since the close of that year to the Concord district of the New Hampshire conference. Plymouth remained a preaching station in a circuit, and ministers were appointed to Plymouth and to one or more adjoining towns until 1838, and since that date

Plymouth has been a station and the church has enjoyed the undivided ministrations of the pastor.

The brick church, located near the present residence of Orrin W. Fletcher at West Plymouth, was built in 1823. Elder Ebenezer Blodgett, a local preacher, Oliver L. Marston, and others were zealous promoters of the enterprise. The house would seat about three hundred, and was occupied by the Methodists of this town about forty years. After preaching was established in the village the ministers appointed to Plymouth preached at both places for several years. The brick church was removed in 1865, and nothing remains but a knowledge of the effort and the sacrifice of those who built it, the record of the faithful labors of the preachers, and the sacred memory of the faith and the devotion of successive worshippers.

The first stated Methodist preaching in Plymouth village was by Rev. William Nelson in 1831. The meetings assembled in a hall owned by Nathan Harris, which stood at the corner of Highland and Langdon streets. Rev. Mr. Nelson and Rev. Matthew Newhall were the ministers appointed to the Plymouth circuit that year. The first Methodist meeting-house in Plymouth village was built during the pastorate of Rev. Schuyler Chamberlain in 1833. It stood on the site of Mason's Block. It was of wood, and cost about one thousand dollars. In 1850, while Rev. George W. H. Clark was preaching here, the house was enlarged, and again in 1857, during the pastorate of Rev. Elijah R. Wilkins. It was occupied until 1872, when the present commodious and substantial edifice was erected a short distance south of the former building. At this time Rev. Morris W. Prince was the pastor. Including the site and the furnishings, the building cost twenty thousand dollars.

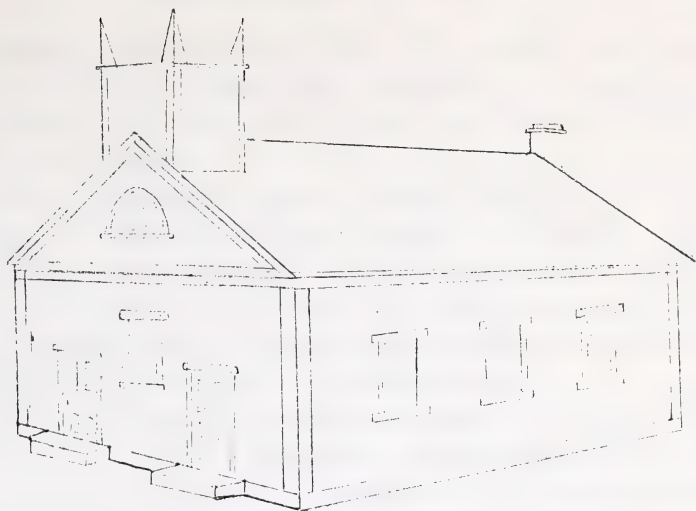
The bell was purchased and hung in the tower in 1888, during the pastorate of Rev. Thomas Tyrie. The cost was met by a legacy of John H. Gill. The first parsonage owned by the society was purchased in 1842, when Rev. Moses Chase was the pastor. It was located north of the present church, and was occupied by

the following table, which is based on the results of the examination of the bones of the skulls of the various races of man, and which shows the relative frequency of the different types of skulls.

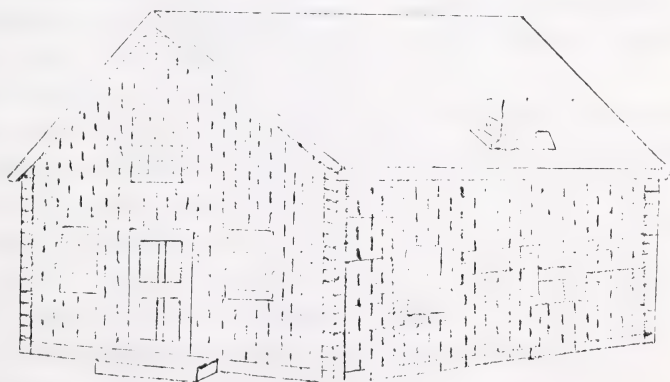
Race	Frequency of different types of skulls
White	1. Brachycephalic 45% 2. Mesencephalic 35% 3. Dolichocephalic 20%
Yellow	1. Brachycephalic 35% 2. Mesencephalic 45% 3. Dolichocephalic 20%
Black	1. Brachycephalic 25% 2. Mesencephalic 55% 3. Dolichocephalic 20%
Red	1. Brachycephalic 30% 2. Mesencephalic 40% 3. Dolichocephalic 30%
Australian	1. Brachycephalic 25% 2. Mesencephalic 45% 3. Dolichocephalic 30%

It will be seen from the above table that the frequency of the different types of skulls varies considerably among the various races of man. The White race is characterized by a high frequency of brachycephalic skulls, while the Black race is characterized by a high frequency of mesencephalic skulls. The Yellow race is characterized by a high frequency of mesencephalic skulls, while the Red race is characterized by a high frequency of dolichocephalic skulls. The Australian race is characterized by a high frequency of mesencephalic skulls.

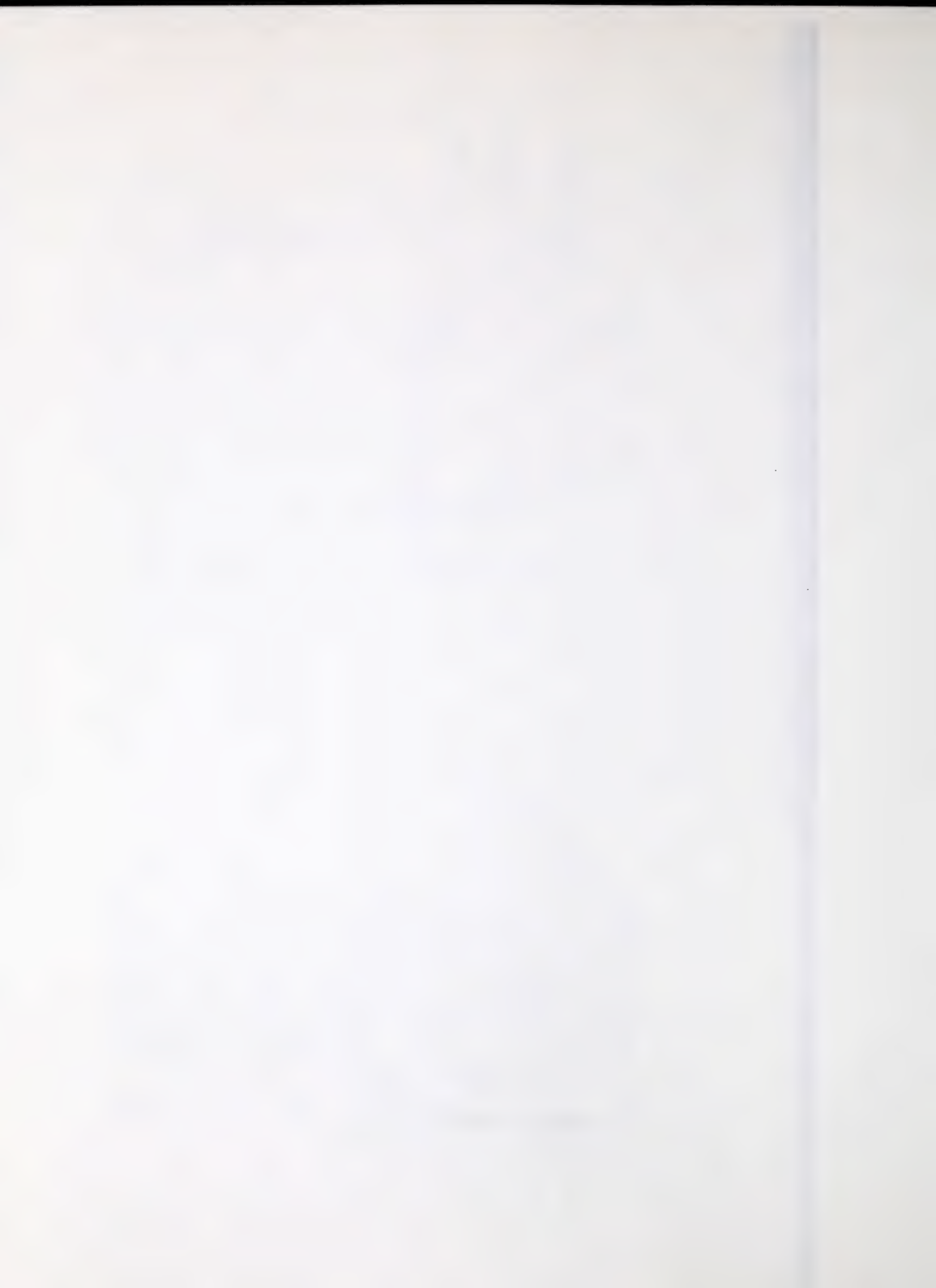
The following table shows the relative frequency of the different types of skulls among the various races of man, and which is based on the results of the examination of the bones of the skulls of the various races of man. It will be seen from the above table that the frequency of the different types of skulls varies considerably among the various races of man. The White race is characterized by a high frequency of brachycephalic skulls, while the Black race is characterized by a high frequency of mesencephalic skulls. The Yellow race is characterized by a high frequency of mesencephalic skulls, while the Red race is characterized by a high frequency of dolichocephalic skulls. The Australian race is characterized by a high frequency of mesencephalic skulls.



THE METHODIST CHURCH, PLYMOUTH VILLAGE, 1850



THE BRICK CHURCH (METHODIST), WEST PLYMOUTH, 1830



the successive ministers until 1872. The present parsonage, located on Highland Street, was purchased at an expense of twenty-five hundred dollars in 1876, and Rev. Joseph E. Robins was the first occupant.

The New Hampshire conference, Bishop Randolph S. Foster presiding, held the fiftieth annual session in Plymouth. The conference convened Wednesday, April 9, and was dissolved Monday, April 14, 1879. Rev. George Hale Scott of this town was the representative of the Congregational churches who presented the fraternal congratulations of his denomination.

The first legal society was organized April 13, 1830. It included the Methodists of Plymouth, Campton, and Holderness. The first meeting assembled in Campton. The following notice was published in the Republican of Haverhill: "Notice is hereby given to all concerned that we, the subscribers, and our associates of Campton, Holderness, and Plymouth, in the County of Grafton, State of New Hampshire, have formed ourselves into a religious society and have assumed the name of the First Methodist Society of Campton, Holderness, and Plymouth, agreeable to an act entitled 'An act empowering religious associations to assume and exercise corporate powers' passed July 3, 1827. Jacob Adams of Campton was president, Oliver L. Marston of Plymouth secretary, and the executive committee were William Sanborn, Samuel Kimball, and John Smith."

Since the arrival in Plymouth of the first circuit preachers one hundred years have been added to the calendar and three generations bearing the burdens have joined in the prayer and the praise of devoted worshippers. The little acorn of the class, planted here by the fervid and hopeful heralds of Methodism, has grown to the spreading oak of a vigorous church. Through succeeding years the pastors and the brethren have comforted the sick and have spoken words of love and consolation to the bereaved. In moulding the character and instructing men and women in their solemn duties to God and to their fellow-men, the good work of the church is dimly seen by mortal vision, but is written in characters of light in the eternal records of another world.



The briefest sketch of the Methodist church in Plymouth would not be complete without mention of some of the worthy fathers who have borne the heat and the burden of their time.

Ebenezer Blodgett, son of James and Sarah (Snow) Blodgett, was born in Plymouth, Feb. 9, 1777. The family were Baptists and frequent attendants at the Congregational church. In early manhood he embraced the faith of Methodism, and was through life a firm and consistent supporter of the church. He was active and helpful in building the brick church, and was a constant attendant at the week-day and Sabbath meetings of the Methodists. He was a local preacher many years, and often preached in Plymouth, Bridgewater, Bristol, and wherever duty called him. He removed to Bristol 1835, and there died Sept. 28, 1854. The Methodist church is dignified in the memory of men like Ebenezer Blodgett.

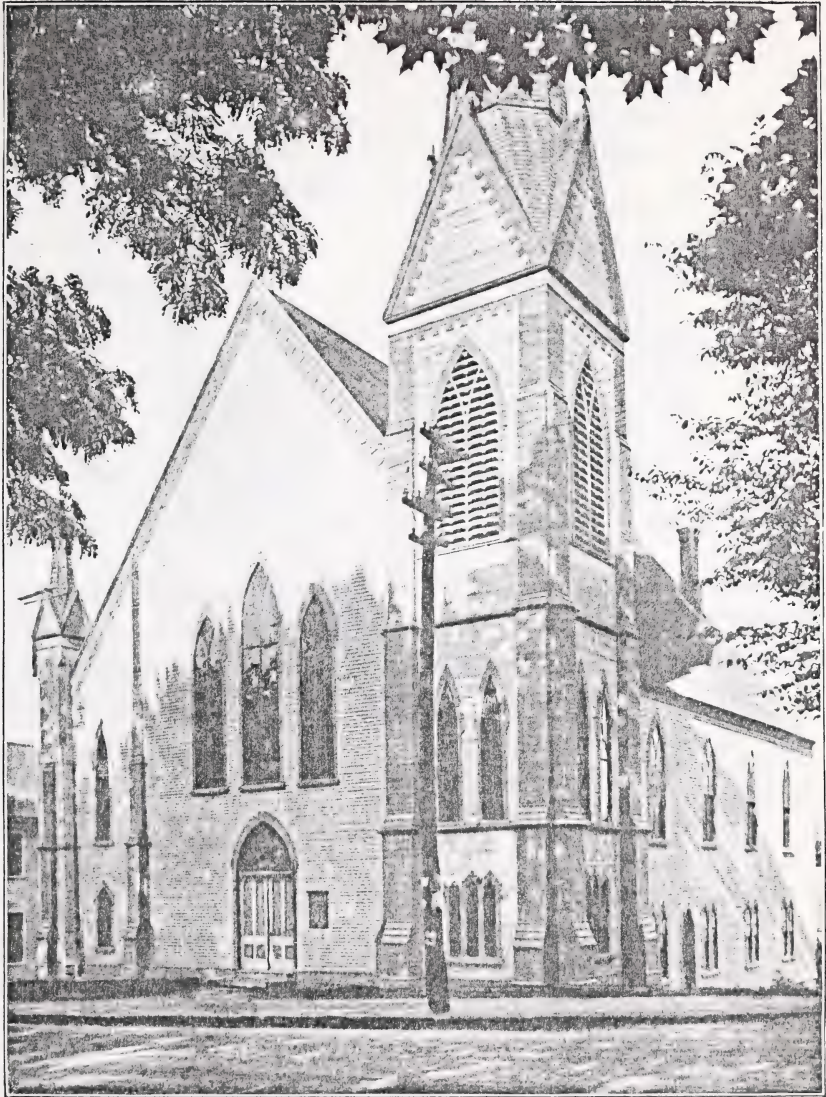
John Hazelton Gill, son of William and Ruth (Hazelton) Gill, was born in Boscawen, Sept. 16, 1809. The family removed to Plymouth in 1830. He was a leader of the choir, and through life an earnest, devoted man, warm in his impulses and firm in his principles. In the example of a worthy life, and in the faithfulness of his constant labor, he called others to the Methodist church, and in his death the sweet-toned bell, by him presented, is calling another generation to the sanctuary. He died July 30, 1888.

General Cyrus Corliss, who died, after many years of devoted service, Aug. 30, 1902, and Benjamin P. Merrill, who died Feb. 4, 1901, were constant and faithful in the councils and the activities of the church, and still live in the influence of devoted lives and zealous service.

Chase W. Calley, with the wisdom of fourscore years and the vigor and fervency of youth, is highly esteemed by his brethren and is a pleasing type of Methodism both old and new.

To the year 1904 the number of ministers appointed to the Bridgewater circuit, to which this town belonged, to West Plymouth, and to Plymouth is ninety-three.





THE METHODIST CHURCH, 1905



The first thirty-five appointments to the circuit were:—

1801 Asher Smith	1813 John Payne
1802 Reuben Jones	John Lewis
1803 Elijah Hedding	1814 John Wilkinson
1804 Lewis Bates	1815 Jonathan Worthen
Caleb Dustin	Hezekiah Davis
1805 Martin Ruter !	1816 Leonard Frost
Benjamin Bishop	1817 Job Pratt
1806 Joel Winch	1818 Orin Roberts
1807 Joseph Farrar	Damon Young
1808 William Hunt	1819 Amasa Cowles
1809 Leonard Frost	1820 Charles Baker
1810 Warren Bannister	1821 Wilder B. Mack
Joseph Lull	1822, '23 Caleb Dustin
1811 Abner Clark	1824 James Templeton
Leonard Bennett	1825 Joseph Kellom
1812 John W. Hardy	David Stickney
Richard Emery	1826 Amasa Buck
	Moses Saunderson

The following have been appointed to West Plymouth and Plymouth from 1827 to 1837 inclusive, and the pastors were expected to supply one or more preaching stations in neighboring towns and in Plymouth village after 1831:—

1827 Joseph Kellom	1832 Matthew Newhall
Sereno Fisk	Otis Dunbar
1828 Joseph Kellom	1833, '34 Schuyler Chamberlain
Jonas Scott	Israel E. Jones
1829 William D. Cass	1835 Jonathan Hazelton
James Huckins	Daniel I. Robinson
1830 William D. Cass	1836 Daniel I. Robinson
Charles G. Chase	Salmon Gleason
1831 William Nelson	1837 William Nelson
Matthew Newhall	Holman Drew
	Lorenzo D. Blodgett

Appointments to West Plymouth, 1838-50:—

1838 William Nelson	1840 William Nelson
1839 Henry J. Woolley	1841 Moody P. Marshall
William Nelson	1842 George F. Wells



1843 John Gould	1847 Josiah A. Scarritt
James M. Hartwell	1848 James G. Smith
1844 John Gould	1849 No appointment
1845 Daniel Lee	1850 James G. Smith
1846 Josiah A. Scarritt	

In 1859 Truman Carter was appointed to West Plymouth and Rumney.

Appointments to Plymouth, 1838 to 1904:—

1838 Eliot B. Fletcher	1865, '66 Hiram L. Kelsey
Samuel G. Scott	1867, '68 Lewis Howard
1839, '40 Lorenzo D. Barrows	1869, '70 Silas E. Quimby
1841 Joseph C. Cromach	1871, '72, '73 Morris W. Prince
1842, '43 Moses Chase	1874 Otis Cale
1844, '45 Ebenezer Peaslee	1875 Edward C. Bass
1846, '47 James G. Smith	1876, '77, '78 Joseph E. Robins
1848 Benjamin D. Brewster	1879, '80, '81 James H. H. Haines
1848, '49 Sullivan Holman	1882, '83 Daniel C. Knowles
1850, '51 George W. H. Clark	1884, '85 William E. Bennett
1852 Elihu Scott	1886, '87, '88 Thomas Tyrie
1853 Amos S. Tenney	1889, '90 Roscoe Sanderson
1854 Horatio N. Taplin	1891, '92 David E. Miller
1855, '56 Robert S. Stubbs	1893, '94, '95 George N. Dorr
1857, '58 Elijah R. Wilkins	1896, '97 John A. Bowler
1859, '60 Charles H. Chase	1898 John H. Emerson
1861, '62 Orlando H. Jasper	1899, 1900, '01 Willis M. Cleveland
1863, '64 Nelson Green	1902, '03, '04 Robert T. Wolcott

DATE AT CLOSE OF YEAR.	MEMBERS.	PROBATIONERS.	DEATHS.	BAPTISMS.		TEACHERS AND OFFICERS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL.	ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SCHOOL.	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO BENEVOLENCE, INCLUDING SUPPORT OF MINISTERS.
				Adults.	Infants.			
1839	233					19	100	\$188
1840	154					13	72	290
1841	156					15	105	290
1842	296	including West Plymouth				20	130	263
1843	389	"	"	"			120	261
1844	229	"	"	"		15	90	315
1845	216	"	"	"		15	65	291
1846	205	"	"	"		13	70	357
1847	133	"	"	"		13	50	279
1848	203	"	"	"		13	50	
1849	91	10				22	175	



DATE AT CLOSE OF YEAR.	MEMBERS.	PROBATIONERS.	DEATHS.	BAPTISMS.		TEACHERS AND OFFICERS OF SUNDAY SCHOOL.	ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY SCHOOL.	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO BENEVOLENCE, INCLUDING SUPPORT OF MINISTERS.
				Adults.	Infants.			
1850	114	26				23	175	
1851	167	36				23	180	
1852	243	40	including	West	Plymouth	24	185	
1853	210	45	"	"	"	50	220	
1854	149	34				12	120	348
1855	144	34				12	120	
1856	112	30				13	80	466
1857	119	25				15	85	466
1858	289	34		4		12	100	405
1859	295	34		18	4	13	150	468
1860	140	32		6		20	200	540
1861	161	25		20		20	200	575
1862	166	19				21	220	560
1863	164	12				21	220	570
1864	165	60		8		24	220	590
1865	190	23		21		24	200	666
1866	188	25		1	1	20	215	1000
1867	191	24	1		2	20	215	1115
1868	190	10	3			20	150	813
1869	180	9	2	2		20	150	805
1870	203	17	2	2		25	253	1037
1871	203	14	4	2	3	29	266	1042
1872	206	8	5	3		26	245	1200
1873	203	13	5			22	286	1145
1874	220	11	6	22	1	27	285	1150
1875	220	20	3	2		27	288	1196
1876	196	25	3	20	1	21	250	1148
1877	218	125	5	68		22	275	1130
1878	267	50	6	44	1	25	365	1189
1879	286	30	5	2	1	25	300	1188
1880	289	35	4	1	1	25	299	1256
1881	250	21	7	10		26	280	1297
1882	303	20	3	10		26	239	1440
1883	232	11	10	7		20	207	1362
1884	238	6	8	6	2	20	250	1384
1885	230	2	1	3		28	161	1373
1886	230		4			26	200	1338
1887	240		3			26	250	1377
1888	250		4		1	25	200	1395
1889	240		4	1	4	25	200	1342
1890	235	11	4	9		21	180	1288
1891	222	2	5	7		21	180	1283
1892	230	13	8	18	2	22	260	1346
1893	236	7	5	8		25	205	1385
1894	238	17	5	13		25	205	1410
1895	257	4	4	4		26	228	1381
1896	258	4	5	1		27	234	1385
1897	257	3	6	3		20	252	1275
1898	249	34	4	19	1	24	252	1138
1899	265	10	3	8	2	23	300	1160
1900	260	14	3	2	1	20	125	1171
1901	260	8	2	3		19	100	1221
1902	249	6	3	4	7	14	130	1205
1903	220	5	12			22	162	1227
1904	212	4	4		1	15	162	1280



PRESIDING ELDERS.

1801-02 John Brodhead	1852-55 William D. Cass
1803 Joseph Crawford	1856-59 Lewis Howard
1804-06 John Brodhead	1860-62 James Pike
1807-08 Elijah Hedding	William D. Cass, last half of
1809-10 Martin Ruter	last year
1811-14 Solomon Sias	1863-66 Elisha Adams
1815-18 David Kilburn	1867-69 Lorenzo D. Barrows
1819-22 Jacob Sanborn	1870-73 Silas G. Kellogg
1823-26 Benjamin R. Hoyt	1874 Theodore L. Flood
1827-29 John F. Adams	1875-76 James Pike
1830-31 John W. Hardy	1877-80 John W. Adams
1832-35 Eliazer Wells	1881-84 Moses T. Cilley
1836-39 Benjamin R. Hoyt	1885-89 George W. Norris
1840-43 Charles D. Cahoon	1890-95 Samuel C. Keeler
1844 Justin Spalding	1896 George M. Curl
1845-46 Russell H. Spalding	1897-1902 Oliver S. Baketel
1847-49 Justin Spalding	1903- George M. Curl
1850-51 Reuben Dearborn	

NOTE. — In the Minutes of the Conference, the name of the minister appointed to the Bridgewater circuit in 1821 is recorded as Wallace Lark and as Wallace Locke and Wilder Mark. There are substantial reasons for the conclusion that his name was Wilder B. Mack. He was admitted to the conference on trial in 1821, and the following year he was appointed to the Mad River circuit in Vermont. In 1823 he was ordained a deacon and appointed to Montpelier, Vt. In 1824, 1825, and 1826 he received appointments in Bath and Hallowell, Me. In 1827 he was transferred to the Pittsburg, Pa., conference, and was presiding elder of the Erie district from 1829 to 1832, and of the Warren district from 1833 to 1835. He was transferred to the Illinois conference, and was presiding elder of the Chicago district in 1836, and the following year he was expelled.



XVIII. THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.

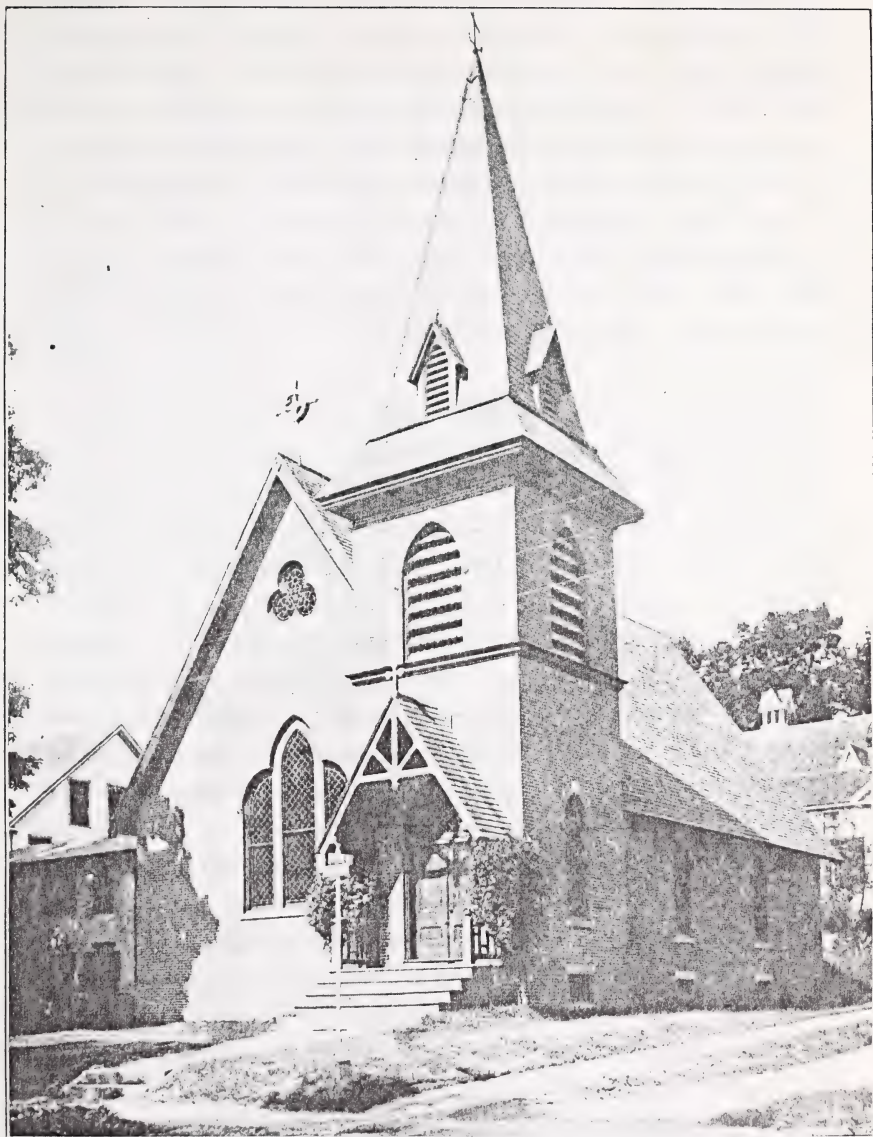
REV. JAMES H. SHEPARD was the pioneer preacher of Universalism in Plymouth. He came to this town in the summer of 1850 and established a seminary in the Holmes Academy building. The following year he purchased the academy building and the boarding-house and made a gallant effort to found a permanent institution of learning in this town. The school under his supervision was suspended in 1853, but he continued a residence here until the autumn of 1856. When and where he studied theology has not been learned, but he was ordained a minister of the Universalist church at Plymouth in the summer of 1856. Before and after his ordination he preached many Sabbaths in the academy building to interested audiences. An attempt at this time to organize a church was abandoned, and Mr. Shepard removed to Centre Harbor, where he preached two years. From 1859 to 1861 he preached in New York City, and the two following years at Mount Vernon, N. Y. He preached at Danbury, Conn., from 1863 to 1867 and continued in the ministry, preaching in Connecticut and New York, until 1878, when he retired from the ministry at Mount Vernon. During the decade succeeding the labors of Mr. Shepard occasional services were enjoyed by the Universalists of Plymouth. The records are fragmentary and very little is known concerning the results or the measure of the interest manifested. Two of the ministers who preached here at this time are well remembered. Rev. Benjamin Marshall Tillotson, many years the able pastor of the First Unitarian Church of Manchester, was here several Sabbaths. He died at White River Junction, Vt., Jan. 17, 1890. Rev. William S. Balch, D.D., a well-known writer and a distinguished preacher, who died at

Elgin, Ill., Dec. 25, 1887, preached here on several occasions. These occasional services were not fruitless, but they were not supported by the power of organization and progression.

In the autumn of 1875 Rev. Everett L. Conger, D.D., now of Pasadena, Cal., and then pastor of the White Memorial Church of Concord, attended the funeral of Arthur Morse. His messages of love and condolence and his conference with the Universalists on that occasion were eventful, and he was invited to preach to them, to which he assented. The date subsequently arranged was Sunday, May 4, 1876. The services on that occasion planted a milestone in the history of Universalism in Plymouth. He preached afternoon and evening in the old courthouse. He awakened a new interest and a subscription was circulated to provide for continued services. Several connected with the other churches in this town subscribed to the fund with the remark that there were good men in Plymouth not connected with any existing church, and that it would be a commendable work to enlist them in the cause of religion and in the support of preaching.

In the summer of 1879 Rev. Dr. Conger persuaded Rev. Thomas Elliot St. John, pastor of the First Universalist Church of Worcester, Mass., to spend his summer vacation in Plymouth and to preach several Sabbaths. Under the same conditions the following year Rev. W. S. Rolph preached in the old courthouse to the Universalists of Plymouth. By a slow process and an invisible connection of these separated efforts the foundation of a permanent structure was laid. The continued record is more connected and substantial. In July, 1881, Rev. Quillen H. Shinn, formerly pastor at Lynn, and then a resident of Foxboro, Mass., removed to Plymouth. He became the first settled pastor of the Universalist church. For three years under the ministration of Mr. Shinn the society worshipped in the old courthouse. An organization was perfected and Mr. Shinn, with unusual tact and efficiency, undertook the building of a church home. Under his direction and encouraged by his enthusiasm the little parish erected the present commodious brick church. The new church edifice was dedicated





THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, 1905



Oct. 28, 1884. Many well-known Universalists were present on the occasion, and prominent among these was Mrs. Mary Thompson (Frothingham) Goddard, widow of the late Thomas Austin Goddard of Boston. Both Mr. and Mrs. Goddard were liberal patrons of Tufts College, the Goddard Seminary of Barre, Vt., and other Universalist institutions. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. Adoniram J. Patterson, formerly of Portsmouth, and later of Roxbury, Mass. Having succeeded in founding a church and in building a church edifice, Mr. Shinn severed his connection Jan. 1, 1885, to enter upon constructive work in Deering, Me. He is now Southern Missionary of the General Convention, respected and loved throughout the land.

Quillen Hamilton Shinn, son of Elisha Shinn, was born at Begaman, W. Va., Jan. 1, 1845. At sixteen years of age, in 1861, he enlisted in the Union army, serving in the Third and the Twelfth Virginia regiments. He was wounded in 1862, and remaining in the service participating in many engagements, he was a prisoner at Belle Isle and among the victors at Appomattox. He was discharged with his regiment at Richmond in June, 1865. Directing his attention to the ministry of the Universalist church, he graduated at the Canton Theological School, St. Lawrence Seminary, 1870. He had pastorates at Gaysville, Vt., and at Tyngsboro, Lynn, Foxboro, and Mansfield in Massachusetts. During his eventful ministry in Plymouth, which succeeded the pastorates named, he instituted the National Summer Meeting at the Wiers, which has been a potent factor in originating new methods and an enlargement of the administration of church affairs. Since his removal from this town he has been a travelling missionary and an eloquent and persuasive minister of his church. In this field of labor he has revived many sleeping and has organized many new churches, earning the significant title of "the John Wesley of the Universalist church." While preaching in California in 1894, Dr. Shinn admitted a youth to the Universalist church and directed his thought to the ministry. The youth after years of study and preparation is now the pastor of the church in Plymouth which

prospered under the ministry of Dr. Shinn, and is preaching each Sabbath in a church edifice erected through his agency and persuasive efforts. In the ministry of Rev. Mr. Ruggles, Dr. Shinn is still preaching to the many whom he loved in Plymouth and to those whom he led into the fold of the church.

Prominent among the people interested and helpful in the constructive work of Mr. Shinn were Mr. and Mrs. Hanson S. Chase, Harrison B. Marden, Andrew J. McClure, G. Smith, Gilmore Houston, Albert Lyford, Mrs. Lydia (Walker) Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, and Mrs. Quincy of Rumney.

The second pastor was Rev. F. W. Betts, a graduate of the Canton Theological School, 1885. He began his labors July 1, 1885. He was ordained at the Weirs in August, 1886, and in September of that year he accepted a call to Palmer, Mass. He is a popular preacher and a successful pastor. He received the degree of D.D. from St. Lawrence University, 1903. After a season of temporary supply, Rev. Thomas Stratton, a graduate of the Canton Theological School, 1888, began a successful ministry in July, 1888, and resigned in March, 1893. He reorganized the church and labored incessantly for the prosperity of his charge. During his ministry a pipe organ was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Greeley and a communion service by Mrs. Hazen D. Smith. Rev. Thomas Stratton is now pastor of the Universalist Church in Rutland, Vt. He was immediately succeeded in Plymouth by Rev. Noel E. Spicer, who labored with the society from April, 1893, to September, 1895. He is now pastor of the Universalist Church in Attica, Ohio. Rev. W. A. Williams preached from April, 1897, to January, 1898. From the latter date until the summer of 1902 the parish was dormant.

In July, 1902, largely through the effort of Mary Elizabeth (Merrill) Greeley, Bernard C. Ruggles, then a student at Canton Theological Seminary, was invited to preach during a summer vacation. The services of these few Sabbaths established the second mile-stone in the growth of the Universalist Church of Plymouth. The State Convention of the Universalist Church endorsed the

desire of the parish to secure a permanent pastor. The convention and the parish were united in an invitation to Rev. Bernard C. Ruggles, who assumed the duties and obligations of a settled pastor upon his graduation from the seminary in June, 1903. He has entered upon the third year of his ministry with substantial assurance of continued success. He has reorganized the church and is laying the foundations of a permanent and stable organization. The church building has been renovated and repaired, and stimulated by the untiring labor of a zealous and devoted pastor, the church in material and spiritual attributes has grown and prospered. Rev. Bernard C. Ruggles, son of George Newton and Edna (Carver) Ruggles, was born at Fremont, Neb., May 24, 1879. He was educated in the grammar and high schools of Santa Paula, Cal., and graduated from the Theological School, St. Lawrence University, 1903. He was a student two years in the university, but relinquished the academical course. He is a member of the Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity and is chaplain of the Olive Branch Lodge, A. F. and A. M.

XIX. SCHOOLS.

ACCORDING to the standard of the time, the early settlers of Plymouth were educated men and women. They came from organized towns where they had enjoyed the privileges of established schools. To them the education of their children was a fundamental concern. The first schools of Plymouth were assembled around the firesides under the supervision of intelligent parents. Of the first generation reared in this town, the number who could not read and write is so small that an instance has not been discovered. Scarcely had the pioneers organized a town, and while yet engaged in felling forests and bringing fields into tillage, they assembled in town meeting and voted to raise money for the support of schools.

In addition to the reservation of school lands according to the conditions of the charter of the town, the proprietors made no provision for the support of schools, and only one vote upon the subject is found in their records. At a meeting of the grantees assembled at the meeting-house in Plymouth, Sept. 12, 1768, upon an article in the warrant, "to see what encouragement the proprietors will give towards the school that Mr. Cleaveland has lately been here in quest of," the proprietors voted to dismiss the article. It is probable that Mr. Cleaveland was a son of Rev. John Cleaveland of Chebacco Parish, Ipswich, Mass., or of his brother Rev. Ebenezer Cleaveland of Gloucester, Mass. The two ministers were clerical associates and personal friends of Rev. Nathan Ward.

In a clear understanding of the early measures adopted in this town for the establishment and maintenance of schools, it should be borne in mind that in the absence of law the town was the supreme authority for many years. The early schools of Plymouth were

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not the product of State support nor the creation of legislation. They were spontaneous among the people. The school system, approved many years subsequently by the legislature and made permanent by statute, was first formulated in the town meetings of New Hampshire and its merits demonstrated by public approval. Plymouth had maintained school districts over fifty years and had adopted measures of town supervision several years before the State legislature created school districts and established a system of supervision.

There are conflicting traditions concerning the names and date of service of the earlier teachers in this town. It is reasonable to accept the tradition that Stephen Webster, Sr., instructed the children of the neighborhood at his home, and it is certain that Jeremiah Blodgett, who died in the army in 1776, James Harvell, a substantial citizen, Nathan Ward, Jr., Mrs. Miriam Snow, Nahum Powers, and Noah Worcester were teachers in the schools of Plymouth before the close of the Revolution.

In the *Memoirs of Rev. Noah Worcester, D.D.*, by Henry Ware, it is stated that Mr. Worcester resided for a time in the family of his uncle, Francis Worcester, at Plymouth, and that he taught the village school nine consecutive winters. The first term began in the late autumn of 1776, and during the last two terms he was a resident of Thornton.

Compared with the record of other towns under similar conditions, the town of Plymouth at a very early date became dissatisfied with a small annual appropriation and established a school on a more permanent foundation. At a meeting assembled Sept. 26, 1774, the town "voted to keep a constant writing school in this town for the future." Only a few days later, Oct. 8, 1774, another meeting was assembled and "voted the town be divided in four societies, viz: one on the north side of Baker's river, one at each end of the town and one in the middle on the south side of Baker's river. And that each society shall draw their proportion of the money which shall be laid out for schooling."

At the time these votes were adopted a writing school was inferior



to a grammar school, and the word "societies" was the designation of a school district.

The first division of the town in school districts was experimental, and the proposition for a revision is found in the warrant for a meeting convened March 14, 1775. "To see how the Town will Divide and in how many divisions for the advantage of keeping of schools in this town." At this time the town was divided into five districts, with names and constituents as follows:—

No. 1. The Lower End District: Elder Francis Worcester, Lieut. Josiah Brown, Col. David Hobart, Benjamin Dearborn, Jr., Daniel Wheeler, Jonas Keyes, Amos Phillips, William Tarlton, Amos Thompson, Gershom Fletcher, Joseph Reed, Phineas Lovejoy, Peter Stearns, Capt. Jotham Cummings, Gershom Hobart, John Fenton, Esq.

No. 2. The Middle District: Samuel Emerson, Elder Stephen Webster, Col. David Webster, William Simpson, Capt. James Hobart, Moses Dow, Deacon John Willoughby, Amos Fisk, Ebenezer Hartshorn, David Durkee, Abel Webster, Zachariah Parker, Silas Brown, Jonas Ward, John Cowan, Nathaniel Webster, Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Dr. Abijah Wright, Dr. Peter Emerson, Eleazer Parker.

No. 3. Upper End District: Samuel Ambrose, John Webber, Ephraim Lund, George Patterson, Stephen Webster, Jr., Lieut. Winthrop Wells, Benjamin Wells, Peter Dearborn, Benjamin Dearborn, Elisha Bean, Ebenezer Blodgett, Onesiphorus Marsh, Samuel Marsh, James Barnes, Jonathan Wells, Jeremiah Blodgett.

No. 4. The South District: Paul Wells, Widow Miriam Snow, James Blodgett, Edward Taylor, Jacob Marsh, Edward Evans, Thomas Lucas, David Nevins, Zebadiah Richardson, Jacob Draper, Amos Webster, John Calef, Nahum Powers, Nehemiah Hardy, Ebenezer Blodgett, Jr.

No. 5. The District North of Baker's River: Lieut. Benjamin Gould, James Harvell, Thomas McCluer, Solomon Wheeler, Edmond Elliot of Campton, Joseph Wheeler, William Greenough, James Ryan, Jacob Merrill, George Hull, Ephraim Keyes.

For the school year beginning July 17, 1775, and ending July 16, 1776, the selectmen assessed £43 and engaged Nathan Ward, the oldest son of Rev. Nathan Ward, to teach a writing school 312 days. The length of the school term in each district was: No. 1,

79 days; No. 2, 91 days; No. 3, 57 days; No. 4, 40 days; No. 5, 45 days.

Under the vote of the town to maintain a school the entire year, dividing the time among the five districts, the selectmen hired Nathan Ward to teach the second year, beginning in July, 1776. He taught four months, completing sixteen months of continuous service, when he requested a dismissal. According to the democratic usage of the time, a town meeting was called to act upon the subject. The town, Nov. 19, 1776, voted "to excuse Nathan Ward Jr. agreeable to his desire from service as school master the remainder of the year, after paying him for the service he has done." The Ward Genealogy asserts that Nathan Ward died at Chester, Nov. 3, 1776. Evidently this date of his death is incorrect. It is probable that he went to Chester as a school teacher, and it is certain that he soon died there.

During the Revolution the record of the schools is brief and disconnected. In several instances the school money after it was raised was applied to the extraordinary expenses of the war. In 1786 the town appropriated £45 for the schools, and in the years immediately following, the sum was increased. A special town meeting, assembled Sept. 13, 1792, made a new record in school affairs. The following articles appear in the warrant for the meeting: —

For the town to take under consideration and determine on some proper method consistent with the laws of the State, and the duty of the selectmen required by such laws, how the money by law required for the supporting of a Grammar School in said Plymouth shall be laid out in keeping such school.

To see if the town will vote any money and what sum, in addition to the money already voted, for the support of schools the present year.

To see if the town will vote to build a convenient school house or school houses in said town and if necessary vote to raise money for that purpose.

The town meeting organized with John Porter, moderator, and near him was Samuel Emerson, for many years the efficient town clerk. The town passed eleven votes: —

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1. Voted to keep a Grammar School the year round in this town.
2. Voted that said school be kept in four districts and on the main road leading from Francis Worcester's to Jacob Marsh's on Rumney line south side of Baker's river.
3. Voted to choose a Committee of four men, one in each district, to divide said town into districts.
4. Voted that John Rogers, Esq., Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Mr. Jonathan Robbins and Mr. Peter Dearborn be said committee.
5. Voted to dismiss the third article [relating to school money]. The committee to divide the town into districts reported, whereupon the town voted:
 6. To accept of the report of the committee for dividing the town into districts which is:

The first or lower district to be from Lieut. Jonathan Robbins to Mr. Amos Phillips inclusively, including Aaron Stearns and all the families easterly of him on Cummings hill.

The second district to begin at Lieut. Richard Bayley's and to extend to Mr. Enoch Ward's inclusively and from Moses Thurlow's to Capt. John Willoughby's inclusively and James Ryan and Jonas Keyes north of Baker's river.

The third district to begin at Doctor Jonathan Robbins' and to extend to the Bridge next beyond or westerly of William George, Esq. and from Major Benjamin Goold's to Jacob Merrill, Junr. including Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Thomas Harriman and Reuben Dearborn.

The fourth district from and including Capt. Stephen Wells to David Alls' inclusively and from Thomas McClure's to William Greenough's inclusively and including Nathan Penniman and all on that road to and including David Senter and all betwixt this and the river road.
 7. Voted that there be a school house built in each district by the inhabitants of each respective district not less than twenty one by twenty six feet on the ground and not less than nine feet stud.
 8. Voted to choose a Committee of four men to procure agree with and hire a suitable person to keep said Grammar School.
 9. Voted that Lieut. Jonathan Robbins, John Rogers, Esq., John Porter Esq. and Capt. Stephen Wells be said Committee.
 10. Voted that all those persons living in the south part of the town and without the bounds of any of said districts to have the privilege, if they see cause, of using their proportion of school money in a district of their own, otherwise to be laid out in and they join some other district.
 11. Voted that the said Grammar School be first opened in the first or lower district.



The permission given to the families in the south part of the town was soon followed by the establishment of the Southern or Fifth school district.

The names of some of the early teachers of the schools of Plymouth do not appear in the records and have faded from the tablets of human memory. In 1784 Elijah Brainerd, a native of Had-dam, Conn., and then a student in Dartmouth College, taught one or more terms of school in this town. Subsequently he was pastor of the Congregational churches of Randolph, Vt., and Claremont. The same year a part of the school money was paid to Col. Joseph Senter as a teacher or an agent who paid for services. In 1786 Absalom Peters, Dartmouth College, 1780, and then a resident of Wentworth, was employed a part of the year. Other teachers previous to 1792 were Joshua Thornton, Joshua Smith, Jotham Cummings, Jr., and Jonathan Strong, Dartmouth, 1786, a native of Bolton, Conn., and later pastor of the Congregational Church of Randolph, Mass.

Beginning with the establishment of the grammar school in 1792, Benjamin Snow, having returned from Nova Scotia (see Revolutionary history), was a school teacher in this town fifteen years. Another grammar-school teacher was John Morris Tillotson, Dartmouth, 1796, a native of Orford. While a student in college he taught a part of the time 1793, 1794, and 1795. Subsequently he was a teacher in Haverhill and a lawyer in Northumberland. In 1795 Joshua Thornton was paid for a journey to Hanover "to fetch a teacher." This was Peter Cochran, a native of New Boston, who graduated from Dartmouth, 1798, and who died at sea 1806. Eleazar Wheelock, Dartmouth, 1776, son of President Eleazar Wheelock, was a teacher in this town 1794, 1798, and 1799. Other Dartmouth graduates who taught in Plymouth previous to 1810 were as follows (the date preceding the name is the year in which they were in this town, and the date following the name is the year of their class):—

1794 John F. Jennison 1797.

1798, 1800 Samuel Eastman 1802.

1798, 1799, 1800 Samuel A. Pearson 1803.

1801 George Farrar 1800.

1801, 1803 Joseph Gillett 1802.

1802 Elisha Rockwood 1802.

1802 Silas H. Sabin 1803.

1803 James Brackett 1805.

1804 Constant Storrs 1807.

1804 Alpheus Roberts 1807.

1805 William Bradbury 1809.

1805, 1806 Samuel Fletcher 1810.

Other teachers in this town from 1792 to 1810 were Nathan Penniman, Benjamin Ward, William Cummings, William Rogers, Rev. Robert Fowle, William Gale, — Chase, Jeremiah Noyes, King George, Moses Hull, Paul Dodge Phillips, Henry Coleman, Rev. Drury Fairbank, Benjamin Bayley, Moses Hadley, Benjamin Morse, Samuel Rogers, William Tarlton, Jr., Nathan Harris, Edward Senter, Israel E. Cheney, John Daine, Dolly Brown, Jemima Brainerd, Lucy Blodgett, Sarah Tarbell, Betsey Clark, Sarah Robbins, Sally Pulsifer, Mrs. Dorcas (Wilson) Webster, Dorothy Smith, Jane Johnston, Abigail Johnston, Eliza Smith, Mrs. Mary (Reed) Melvin, Hannah French, Lydia Peters, Jane Porter, Susannah Reed, Betsey Tarlton, Sally Webber, Mrs. Susannah (Reed) Darling, Polly Cochran, Sally Worcester, Sally Phelps, Eunice Rogers.

In this manner the public schools of Plymouth were founded. There were very few laws upon the subject. The creation of a system and the voluntary support given to the structure were the matured opinions of the fathers expressed in town meeting. At the close of the century the boundaries of the school districts were more clearly defined, and the families living in each district in the year 1799 are here presented: —

The Lower End District: Capt. Jotham Cummings, Jotham Cummings, Jr., Jarahmael Cummings, Jonathan Cummings, Joseph F. Cummings, Nathaniel Emerson, William Going, Nathan Stearns, Samuel Stearns, Aaron Stearns, Joel Taylor, Lieut. Jonathan Robbins, Asa Robbins, David Brainerd, Francis Worcester, Jr., Capt. Josiah Brown,

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Edward Webber, Deacon Joshua Fletcher, Ensign Joseph Reed, Crisp B. Noyes, James Gorman, Edward Senter, Reuben Phillips, William Currier, Daniel Currier, Luke Wilson, Joshua Fletcher, Jr.

The Middle District: David Haseltine, Lieut. Richard Bayley, Richard Bayley, Jr., Joseph Coffren, Jacob Fellows, John Farnum, Moses French, James Hazeltine, John Porter, Esq., Dr. Jonathan Robbins, Gain Robertson, Moses Thurlow, Dr. John Rogers, Jabez H. Weld, Phineas Walker, Esq., Nathan Harris, Col. David Webster, Col. William Webster, George W. Webster, Deacon John Willoughby, Abner Willoughby, Enoch Ward, Daniel C. Webster, Samuel Greenleaf, James Miller, Moses Mulliken, Peter McQuesten, Joseph Bayley, Isaac Ward, Benjamin Ward, Elephas Reed, Zachariah Parker, Jonathan Parker, Daniel Ladd, Liberty Cary, James McQuesten, Daniel Ward.

The Upper End District: David Alls, Jacob Marsh, Samuel Marsh, Onesipherus Marsh, Joseph Clifford, Capt. Joshua Thornton, Lieut. Elisha Bean, Peter Dearborn, Nason West, Winthrop Wells, Jacob Smith, Edmund Webber, Peter Webster, Jeremiah Bean, John Webber, William Webber, Ezekiel Gile, Phillip Wells, Samuel Wells, William George, Esq., King George, Moses George, John Kemp, Enoch Melvin, Amos Webster, Jesse Taylor, Stephen Webster, Jr., Jeremiah Smith, Pearson Berry.

The South District: Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Thomas Harriman, Nathan Penniman, Stephen Bartlett, Sargent Bartlett, Amos Blood, Jacob Draper, Solomon Bayley, Nehemiah Snow, Samuel Morse, John Rollins, John Harriman, Israel Hoyt, Abel Chamberlain, Samuel Abbot, Currier Barnard, William George, Jr., Robert George, John Keyes, Thomas Fuller, Edward Dearborn, Reuben Dearborn, James McClure, Abiel Blodgett, James Blodgett, Simeon Blodgett, Andrew Hickok, John Rideout, Noah Phillips, Peter D. Blanchard, Abraham Cole.

The North of Baker's River District: Major Benjamin Goold, John Goold, Widow Abigail McClure, Samuel Emerson, Ebenezer Emerson, Jonathan Emerson, Ephraim Keyes, James Harvell, Esq., James Harvell, Jr., John Hull, Moses Hull, Jonas Keyes, James Ryan, Isaac Ryan, Jacob Merrill, Esq., Jacob Merrill, Jr., Moses Merrill, Giles Merrill, Moses Emerson.

In 1808 a new district was created with name and families as follows:—

The Meeting House District: Zachariah Parker, Jonathan Parker, Abraham Darling, Isaac Stafford, Zachariah Cleasby, Isaac Ward, Peter McQuesten, Reuben Dearborn, Edward Dearborn, Widow Lydia Ward,

The first of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in urban areas. This is a result of the process of urbanization, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The second is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the middle class. This is a result of the process of social mobility, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The third is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the white race. This is a result of the process of racial assimilation, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The fourth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The fifth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The sixth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The seventh is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The eighth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The ninth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The tenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The eleventh is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The twelfth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The thirteenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The fourteenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The fifteenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The sixteenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The seventeenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century. The eighteenth is the fact that the majority of the population is now living in the United States. This is a result of the process of immigration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

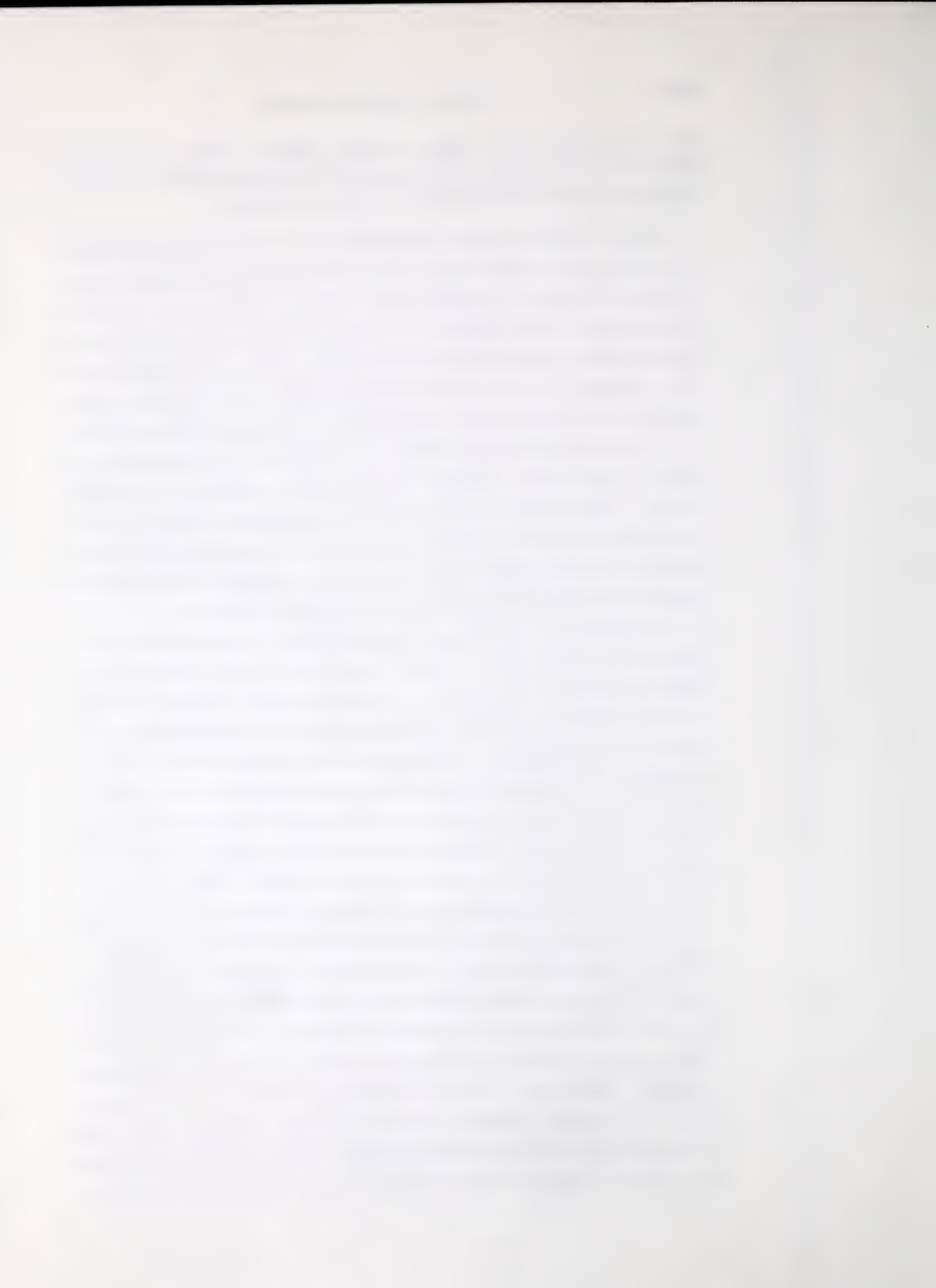
Samuel Dearborn, Jr., Edward Robie, Edward Robie, Jr., Thomas Robie, John Porter, Esq., Dr. Jonathan Robbins, Enoch Ward, Bradbury Furguson, Capt. Samuel Dearborn, Moses Mulliken.

A few families in the southwest part of the town, and remote from any of the established schools, for several years received permission of the town to retain their school tax and expend it for the instruction of their children. Subsequently these families were included in a new district called the Seventh, and sometimes the New, district. The heads of the families were Edward Senter, Peter Wells, Robert Glover, Benjamin Glover, and Oliver Blake.

In 1809, in accordance with a vote of the town, the selectmen divided the Fourth or South district and established the Eighth district. This district included all the families of the Fourth district who lived west of a line extending westerly by land of James Blodgett and Benjamin Dearborn and the thirteenth lot in the third range of the first division of lots, to the line of Hebron.

In answer to a petition of James Little, the town in 1810 instructed the selectmen to create the Ninth school district in the northeast corner of the town. It contained the Governor's Farm, and nearly all the land of this district was owned by the petitioner, who lived in Campton. The district was bounded on the north by Campton, on the east by the Pemigewasset, on the south by Baker's River, and on the west by land of Col. David Webster and Jacob Merrill. The Tenth district, including the territory around Pike Hill, was established at first by general consent. Subsequently the town ratified the proceedings and officially recognized the district.

The town voted, May 25, 1819, to divide the First district and to establish District No. 11. The selectmen promptly reported that they had divided the district by a line extending north from the line of Bridgewater, and that the citizens of the new district living west of the line of division were Jonathan Cummings, Leonard Cummings, Noah Cummings, Phineas L. Emerson, Joseph Fletcher, Michael Mitchell, Joseph Morse, Benjamin Nutting, Widow Sibel Nutting, Daniel Prescott, Matthew Ramsay, Aaron Stearns, Aaron Stearns, Jr., and Jonas Willoughby.



In response to numerous petitions for the amendment of the boundaries of the several school districts, the town in 1830 referred the subject to a committee of one from each of the eleven districts. The members of the committee, named in the order of the districts, were: Asa Robbins, Humphrey Webster, Moses George, John Webster, William Goold, Isaac Ward, David Fowler, John Rideout, David Webster, Jonathan Cummings, and Perley Pike. The report of the committee, which was adopted, follows:—

The committee appointed by the town of Plymouth at a legal meeting in April 1830 to divide and describe the town into school districts have attended to the duties of their appointment and report as follows —

District No. 1 described and bounded as follows:—

Beginning at a pine tree standing on the bank of Pemigewassett River at the South-East corner of Plymouth — Thence following up said River to the northerly line of the homestead farm of Daniel Currier — thence westerly on the line between the said Currier's and Col. Benjamin Edmands' land to the road leading over the Thurlow hill, so called, to land owned by William Webster, Thence Southerly on said road and on the line of said Webster's land and lands of the aforesaid Daniel Currier and Henry M. Currier to the South East Corner of said Webster's land to land owned by Noah Cummings — Thence Easterly on the line between the land of said Noah Cummings and the said Henry M. Currier to the aforesaid road — Thence Southerly by said road to land owned or occupied by Nathan Lovejoy — Thence Easterly by said Lovejoy's land to the road leading from Cumings Hill, so called, to the river road — Thence Easterly on said road so far as that a line drawn thence South shall strike the north-east corner of the farm owned by Leonard Cummings — Thence South on the line between the said Leonard's land and land owned by Joseph Reed, Capt. Marston and Hezekiah Blake to land owned by Benjamin Cass — Thence Westerly and Southerly by said Cass' land to Bridgewater line — Thence on said Bridgewater line to the bound began at.

District No. 2: Beginning at a stake and stones by Pemigewassett River at the northeast corner of District No. 1 — Thence up said River to the mouth of Baker's River, Thence up Baker's River to the lower Bridge — Thence across said Bridge and extending northerly and westerly on the line between land owned by David Webster on the one side and Horace Bugbee and Humphrey Webster on the other side to land owned by Samuel Stevens land — Thence Southerly by said Stevens land to Baker's River Thence down said River to the bridge — Thence

across said bridge to the south bank of the river — Thence up said river to the bound of Wm. Webster Endervale — Thence following the northerly line of said Webster's land to the corner of the French farm — Thence westerly on the north line of the said French farm to the land owned by the widow Mary Ward — Thence south, to the South East corner of the said Mary Ward's land to land owned by William Webster — thence westerly by said Webster's land to the land owned by Alva McQuesten — Thence Southerly and westerly by land owned by Humphrey Webster David Hazleton and Moor Russell, James Miller, D. M. Russell and Stevens Merrill to the north-east corner to a lot of upland owned by the heirs of John Rogers Esq. deceased, Thence westerly and southerly and easterly, by said lot, to a tract of land owned by Humphrey Webster — Thence southerly and easterly by said Webster's land to the south-west corner of Wm. Webster's upland — thence easterly by said Wm. Webster's land to land owned by Henry M. Currier — thence northerly by said Wm. Webster's land to the north-west corner of the farm owned by Daniel Currier — thence easterly by said Currier's land to the bound first named.

District No. 3: Begins at the north-east corner of district No. 6 at a stake and stones by Baker's River, being a bound between the farms of King George and Henry Sanborn — Thence Southerly on the line of said George to his south east corner — Thence westerly on the South line of the said George and on the line of Moses George land westerly and southerly to the road leading from Plymouth by Samuel Dearborn's to Hebron — Thence westerly on said road to a small tract of land owned by Jonathan Robbins, which he had of Sargent Bartlett, and following the north line of said tract to land owned by Noah Cumings — Thence Southerly by said Noah's land and westerly by the same to the land of Ebenezer Blodgett — Thence northerly on said Blodgett's land to Baker's River Range line — Thence westerly on said line to the line of lot No. 1 in the broken range — thence southerly on said last mentioned line to the south east corner of lot No. 3 — Thence westerly by said to Hebron line — Thence northerly by Hebron line and Rumney line to Baker's River — Thence across the river — Thence on said Rumney line to the south west corner of Campton — Thence easterly on Campton line to the northwest corner of the farm formerly owned by Samuel Emerson Esq. deceased. Thence on the westerly line of said farm to Baker's River — Thence to a stake and stones on the south bank of said River — thence down said river to the bounds first mentioned.

District No. 4: Beginning at a stake and stones on the south side of the road leading by Samuel Dearborn's to Hebron, on the line between the land of Jonathan Dearborn and the farm formerly owned by Thomas



Harriman—Thence Southerly by the said Harriman farm to the land owned by William Draper—Thence Southerly on the line between the said Draper, Ezekiel Keyes and William Gill on the one side and Benjamin Dearborn Thomas Jenness, Jesse Jenness, Lewis Dearborn, Edward Dearborn and Aaron Stearns Jr., on the other side, to the southerly line of the fourth range—Thence easterly on said range line to the north-east corner of a tract of land formerly owned by Samuel Emerson, Esq.—Thence Southerly on the easterly line of the sixth range to the south end of lot No. 1, 2 & 3 in said sixth range to the south east corner of lot No. 4 in the fifth range—Thence northerly by lots No. 4, 3 & 2 to the southeast corner of lot No. 1—Thence westerly on the line between lots No. 1 & 2 to land owned by Willard Rideout—Thence northerly by said Rideout's land to the southerly line of the 4th range—Thence westerly on said range line to the south westerly corner of a tract of land owned by the heirs of Abel Chamberlain—Thence northerly by said last mentioned tract to the southerly line of the 3rd range—Thence westerly by said range line to the south west corner of Samuel Morse's land—Thence northerly and easterly by said Morse's land to the land owned by Jonathan G. Cumings. Thence on the westerly line of the said Cumings land to the land of Ebenezer Blodgett—Thence easterly by said Blodgett's land and by land of Noah Cumings and northerly by the said Noah's land and easterly by the same to the road above named. Thence easterly by said road to the bound first mentioned.

District No. 5: Begins at the northwesterly corner of the farm formerly owned by Samuel Emerson, Esq., deceased, on Campton line—Thence southerly by the westerly line of said farm to Baker's River—Thence following down on the northerly bank of said river to the South-easterly corner of Samuel Stevens' land—Thence northerly on the easterly line of said Stevens' land to the road leading to Rumney—Thence westerly by said road and by land owned by Capt. David Webster and by land lately owned by John Dearborn to the road leading from Plymouth to Beech hill in Campton—Thence northerly by said last mentioned road to the northwesterly corner of Moses Hull's land—Thence easterly by said Hull's land to lands owned by Capt. David Webster—Thence northerly by said Webster's land to Campton line—Thence westerly on Campton line to the bound first named.

District No. 6: Begins at the northwesterly corner of Henry Sanborn's farm at a stake and stone standing by Baker's River—Thence running southerly on the westerly line of said Sanborn's land to the farm of Capt. Samuel Dearborn. Thence westerly on the northerly line of said Dearborn's farm to the northeast corner of the farm formerly owned by

Thomas Harriman, deceased — Thence southerly following the easterly line of the said Harriman farm to William Draper's land and on the westerly line of the lands owned by Thomas Jenness, Jesse Jenness, Lewis Dearborn and Edward Dearborn to the road leading by John Webster's to the Mayhew Turnpike — Thence easterly by said road to the corner of land owned by Aaron Stearns Jun. — Thence easterly on the line between the said Stearns' land and that of Edward Dearborn to the land of Aaron Stearns Sen. — Thence northerly by the said Stearns Sen.'s land and by a tract of land owned by the heirs of John Rogers Esq., deceased — Thence easterly by said last mentioned tract to a tract of land owned by D. M. Russell and Stevens Merrill — Thence on the westerly line of the said Russell's and Merrill's land and of land owned by James Miller, Moor Russell, David Hazleton, Humphrey Webster and William Webster to land owned by Alva McQuesten. Thence easterly by said Alva McQuesten's land and northerly by the same to the southerly line of Baker's River Range — Thence easterly on the line of Baker's river range to the southwesterly corner of Nathan Harris' land — Thence northerly by said Harris' land to the main road — Thence easterly by said road to the line of lot No. 2 in Baker's river range. Thence northerly on said line to the Endervale lot No. 11. Thence easterly and northerly by said lot No. 11 to Baker's River. Thence westerly by said River to the bound first mentioned.

District No. 7: Begins at the most southerly corner of Plymouth Thence northerly on the line between Plymouth and Hebron to the corner of lot No. 5 in the fourth range — Thence easterly on the southerly line of said lot and on the northerly line of lots No. 7 in the 5th range and No. 6 in the 6th range to the easterly line of the said 6th range — Thence northerly to the corner of lot No. 4 in the 7th range — Thence easterly on the southerly line of lots No. 4 in the 7th range and 3 in the 8th range to the easterly line of the 8th range. Thence South on said last mentioned line to Bridgewater line. Thence on Bridgewater line to the bound first mentioned.

District No. 8: Beginning at Hebron line at the Southwesterly corner of lot No. 3 in the broken range — thence easterly by said lot to the south east corner of said lot on the easterly side of said range — Thence northerly on said range line to the southwest corner of lot No. 1 in said range — Thence easterly on the line of Baker's River range to the northeast corner of Ebenezer Blodgett's land — Thence southerly by said Blodgett's land to the southeast corner of the same — Thence westerly by the same to the northwest corner of the farm owned by Jonathan G. Cumings — Thence southerly on the westerly line of the said Cumings' land to land owned by Stephen Morse — Thence easterly and southerly



by same to land owned by Samuel Morse Thence on the northerly and westerly line of the said Samuel Morse's land to land owned by Samuel Wells. Thence easterly by said Wells' land to a tract of land owned by the heirs of Abel Chaimberlin — Thence southerly on the line between the land of the said Chaimberlin's heirs and the said Wells to the southerly line of the 4th range — Thence westerly on said range line to the corner of a tract of land owned by Henry Wells. Thence southerly by said Henry's land and by land owned by the widow Blodgett to the northerly line of lot No. 3 in the third range Thence following the north line of said lot No. 3 to Hebron line — Thence on Hebron line to the corner of Plymouth — thence northerly on Plymouth line to the bound first mentioned.

District No. 9: Beginning at the north end of the Bridge near the mouth of Baker's River by Capt. David Webster's land Thence northerly on the westerly line of said Webster's land to the road leading from said Webster's on the north side of Baker's River to Rumney — thence westerly by said road to the road leading over beach Hill in Campton — Thence northerly by said last mentioned road to Campton line — Thence easterly on Campton line to Pemigewassett River — Thence down said River to the mouth of Baker's River. Thence up the last mentioned river to the bound first mentioned.

District No. 10: Beginning at Bridgewater line at the Southeasterly corner of Benjamin Cass' land — thence following the westerly and northerly lines of said Cass' land to the Southeast corner of Leonard Cumings' land thence following the easterly line of the said Leonard's land to the northeast corner thereof — thence north to the road leading from the main road to Cumings Hill thence westerly on said road to a tract of land owned or occupied by Nathan Lovejoy — Thence on the easterly line of said tract to the road leading over the Thurlow Hill — Thence northerly by said last mentioned road to the northwest corner of a tract of land owned by Noah Cumings — Thence following the north line of said Noah's land and the northerly line of a lot of land owned by Israel Marston to land of Aaron Stearns. Thence on the northerly line of said Stearns' land to Edward Dearborn's land — Thence on the westerly line of said Stearns land and on the northerly line of the land of Aaron Stearns Jun. to the road leading by John Webster's to the Mayhew Turnpike. Thence westerly by said road to the westerly line of the said Aaron Jun. land — Thence on the westerly and southerly lines of the said Aaron's land to the easterly line of the 6th range — Thence southerly on the easterly line of the 6th range to lot No. 5 in said range — Thence on the north, west and south lines of said lot No. 5 to the last mentioned range line — Thence northerly to the lot No. 4 in

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the 7th range — Thence on the southerly line of lots No. 4 in the 7th range and 3 in the 8th range to the easterly line of the said 8th range — Thence south on said last mentioned line to Bridgewater line — Thence easterly on Bridgewater line to the bound began at.

District No. 11 : Beginning at Hebron line at the northwesterly corner of lot No. 3 in the third range and second division — Thence easterly by the northerly line of said lot to the southeasterly corner of a tract of land owned by the widow Blodgett Thence northerly by the last mentioned tract and on the easterly line of land owned by Henry Wells to the southerly line of the 4th range — Thence easterly on said line to the northeast corner of Willard Rideout's land Thence southerly by said Rideout's land and by the line of lot No. 2 in the 4th range to the southwesterly corner of lot No. 4 in the 5th range — Thence easterly by the southerly line of lot No. 4 and the same course to the northeasterly corner of lot No. 5 in the 5th range — Thence southerly by the easterly line of lots No. 5 and 6 in the 5th range — Thence westerly by the southerly line of lot No. 6 in the southeasterly corner of lot No. 5 in the 4th range — Thence by said lot No. 5 to Hebron line — Thence on Hebron line to the bound first mentioned.

In 1835 the twelfth district, later known as the fifth district, was established.

The next district to be added to an increasing number of school organizations was the Union District No. 1, in the northwest corner of Plymouth and the southwest corner of Campton. The district was established in 1846 and was incorporated in 1853, including the families and estates of Henry C. Phillips, David H. Avery, Oliver Avery, Anson Merrill, Seth Doton, Kimball C. Corliss, Jacob Morrison, Ezra W. Avery, Daniel Spooner, Abiel C. Flanders, John Harriman, Hiram Harriman, and William Harriman. The following year, Abel Nutting, Benjamin Nutting, and Michael Mitchell of the Tenth district and Robert Mitchell of the First were granted leave to join with John Fuller, Jeremiah Cass, Albert F. Mitchell, and Charles J. Mitchell of Bridgewater and establish Union District No. 2. At this time there were fourteen districts.

In 1854 the town voted to redistrict all the territory north of Baker's River. The old District No. 5 was dissolved and the territory was annexed to Union District No. 1 and to District No. 9. At the same time District No. 12 became No. 5.



In 1860 a tract of land in the southwest corner of Campton was annexed to Plymouth. By this proceeding nearly all of Union District No. 1 became a part of Plymouth and the union district was dissolved. At the same time the western part of the territory north of Baker's River, including the territory of the union district, was organized and assumed the name of District No. 12.

A few years later District No. 11 was joined to No. 4, and District No. 10, with a few families in Bridgewater, became a union district. About the same time District No. 7, adjacent to Hebron, joining with about an equal section of that town, became a part of another union district.

For several years, and until 1885, school money was paid to the union districts, but they were left under the supervision of Bridgewater and Hebron. Upon the adoption of the town system measures were introduced at the June session, 1885, for the dissolution of the two union districts. One of the bills became a law, but the passage of the school act of that year dissolved all the districts without the necessity of special legislation.

In any record of the school districts of Plymouth the second or independent schoolhouse in the third district demands a paragraph. This district, adjacent to Baker's River, was large in area and populous, including many productive farms and prominent families. In 1847 twelve citizens of the district petitioned for a division on the line between the land of William Willoughby and the Cross farm, and the establishment of a new district. The petitioners were Austin George, Amos Webster, David George, Moses George, William Gill, King George, John H. Gill, Noah C. Cummings, Hiram Clark, Thomas Clark, Washington George, and William Willoughby.

The town refused to grant their request, but several of the petitioners, including Thomas Clark, Washington George, David George, Hiram Clark, William Webster, Noah C. Cummings, and Austin George, by mutual agreement, built a schoolhouse on land presented by Thomas Clark. For several years private schools were maintained in "the little new school house" at times when

The first of these is the fact that the majority of the specimens are from the same locality, and that they are all of the same sex. This is a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The second fact is that the specimens are all of the same age, and that they are all of the same size. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The third fact is that the specimens are all of the same species, and that they are all of the same sex. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The fourth fact is that the specimens are all of the same age, and that they are all of the same size. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The fifth fact is that the specimens are all of the same species, and that they are all of the same sex. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The sixth fact is that the specimens are all of the same age, and that they are all of the same size. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The seventh fact is that the specimens are all of the same species, and that they are all of the same sex. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The eighth fact is that the specimens are all of the same age, and that they are all of the same size. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The ninth fact is that the specimens are all of the same species, and that they are all of the same sex. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest. The tenth fact is that the specimens are all of the same age, and that they are all of the same size. This is also a very unusual occurrence, and it is therefore of great interest.

the public school was not in session. Some of the teachers of the private school were Henry C. Phillips, Irene M. Clark, Susan A. Tyrrill, Ellen M. Burley, Mary Ann Dearborn, Sarah Clark, and Arabella M. Little.

The history of the schools of a town in New Hampshire is divided into three epochs. During the first, or the voluntary period, which ended in 1827, the schools were established and maintained and schoolhouses were erected by the town. There were very few and imperfect statutes. The proceedings of the several towns were so constant and uniform that a system was established without the regulation and compulsory influence of law. It was pre-eminently a town system. By the statute of 1827 and amendments, school districts became corporations with authority to choose prudential committees, to own school lots, to build schoolhouses, and to have a general control of the school. The towns were instructed to raise money for school purposes and to choose a committee of supervision. The second epoch extended from 1827 to the abolishment of school districts.

In the progress of years the number of pupils in the village schools was largely increased, while the number of families and, in a greater ratio, the number of pupils in the outside districts was constantly decreasing. The inequality of the schools demanded a more elastic system. The people were attached to the district organization. They had experienced the benefit of district rivalry and of local control. The passage from the second to the third epoch was made after prolonged discussion and the surrender of certain approved methods. The abolishment of the district system, if a radical, was not a sudden movement. In 1853 Rev. William R. Jewett, in the annual school report, declared, "We need fewer districts and larger schools." Herman L. Sargent, in the report of 1872, follows with the recommendation, "I believe we ought to follow the example of some of the younger and growing States. Let the township form a single district. Abolish the office of prudential committee and superintending committee and elect a board of three directors and



give them full power respecting school interests." Charles A. Jewell, in the report submitted in March, 1878, conscious of the merits of the district and the town system, presented the question fairly in these words: "A complete revolution in the condition of our school districts has taken place within the last quarter of a century. Many of the farms upon our hillsides have been abandoned and the old homesteads deserted, so that the farming communities have become more or less depopulated, and in some of the districts where once the old schoolhouses were well filled with eager boys and girls, hardly a dozen children are now found to take their places. The welfare of our schools imperatively demands a change and readjustment of district lines. The adoption of the town system is naturally suggested as a remedy for present evils. While I firmly believe in the town system, and am fully convinced that better results would follow should we adopt it and place the entire management and control of our schools in a town board of education, I am aware that our people are not yet agreed as to this much needed reform, and I do not, therefore, consider its adoption feasible at the present time. But I trust that the time is not far distant when we shall all recognize it as the only rational and economical school system." The debate was soon terminated. The town system was adopted in March, 1885. The third epoch has been eventful and progressive.

For many years the inequality of the districts in many towns had invited the discussion of corrective measures. An early and, as it proved, the prevailing plan of meeting the difficulty was the abolishment of all the districts and the substitution of a town district containing several schools. The advocates of the change manifested more eagerness in securing early results than wisdom in the form of the statute. The law of 1870 which permitted, and the law of 1885 which created, a town system were crude, and failed in a clear definition of the duties and rights of the town and the town district. For this reason the board of education and the selectmen for a few years labored under many embarrassments, and meanwhile the opponents of the new system

were re-enforced by a few who liberally construed an elastic statute.

The town system was adopted by Plymouth under the permissive act, and a few months before the passage of the mandatory act of 1885. The first board of education was appointed by the selectmen, and the members were Charles A. Jewell, Alvin Burleigh, Robert Burns, James A. Penniman, Daniel H. Currier, and Henry P. Peck.

An account of the schools of Plymouth during the third epoch and under the town district system is the continued record of progress and a material improvement of the results secured. At the outset the new system was severely tested. The statute was imperfect and many fears and misunderstandings were expressed. In the reorganization of the schools, and in an adjustment of the property interests of the former districts, the board of education and the selectmen found unusual opportunities for the exercise of wisdom and patience. The board of education established seven schools, which are known as the Village, Lower Intervale, Ward Hill, Baker's River, Sargent, Turnpike, and Livermore schools, and provision has been made annually for the transportation of scholars living remote from any of the seven permanent schools.

At the establishment of the New Hampshire Normal School, that institution assumed the responsibility of the instruction of the scholars of the village district formerly known as District No. 2. The relations between the district and the normal school have been of mutual advantage. The school has been a graded school, and a high school was early established. The sum annually paid by the district to the normal school was gradually increased from eight hundred dollars, in 1873, to thirty-three hundred dollars, in 1903, when a new contract was made. Since 1903, the high school having been established without connection with the normal school, the annual payment is one thousand dollars.

The Plymouth High School was established in 1883, and for twenty years it was a department of the normal school, under the joint supervision of the principal of the normal school and

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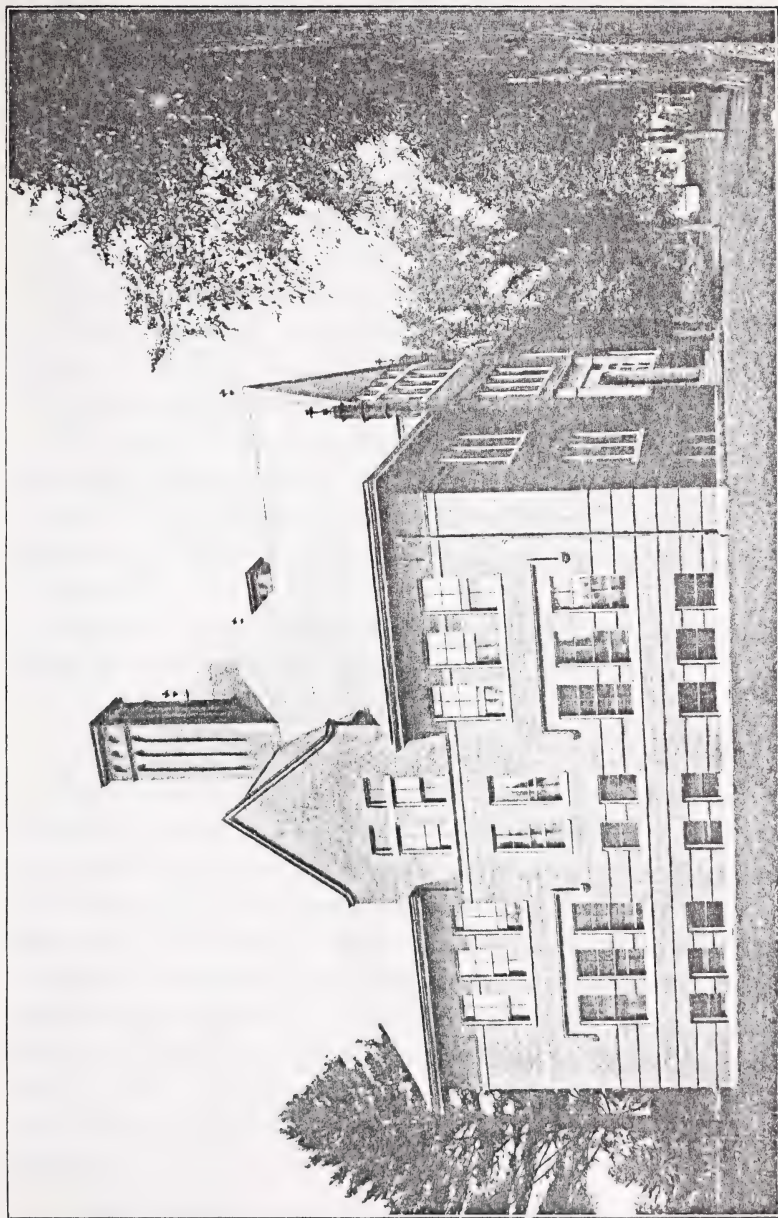
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PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL, 1905



the board of education. The school was accommodated in the normal building until 1891, and subsequently in Kidder Block until the completion of the high-school building. The school was severed from the normal school and passed into the sole supervision of the town authorities in 1903.

After an intelligent discussion of the subject and a comparison of the several plans suggested for the future accommodation of the high school, a convenient lot of land was purchased and a substantial and commodious building was erected in 1904. The building committee were George H. Adams, Charles J. Ayer, Charles J. Gould, Davis B. Keniston, and William M. Peppard. The contractor was Augustine N. Gilbert of Berlin.

The cost of the new high-school building, including land, grading, and furnishing, will not fall short of fifty thousand dollars. The building in all its appointments is a pleasing expression of the enterprise and public spirit of the people of Plymouth.

Newton Dexter Clark, the present principal, has completed four years of successful administration.

SUPERVISION OF THE SCHOOLS.

From 1809 to 1884 inclusive the town elected or the selectmen appointed annually a committee of supervision. The committee was styled inspectors of schools until 1827, when the name of superintending school committee was conferred by the statute of that year. In 1872 the name of the school officials was changed to school committee. Since 1885 the committee of three members with enlarged power has been styled the board of education and has been elected, each for the term of three years, by the town district. The record of an election is not found for every year. So far as known, the school committees of Plymouth have been as follows:—

1809 Drury Fairbank, John Rogers, Jotham Cummings, Jr.

1810 Drury Fairbank, John Rogers, William Webster.

1811 Drury Fairbank, Jonathan Robbins, William Webster.

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|---|--------------------------|
| 1812 Drury Fairbank. | 1814 Drury Fairbank. |
| 1813 Drury Fairbank. | 1815 Drury Fairbank. |
| 1816 Drury Fairbank, Samuel C. Webster, Phineas Walker. | |
| 1817 Drury Fairbank, Moses Hadley, Samuel Rogers. | |
| 1818 Benjamin Bayley, Rufus Danforth, Jonathan Dearborn, Jonathan Robbins, Samuel Rogers. | |
| 1819 Samuel C. Webster, Phineas Walker, Jonathan Ward. | |
| 1820 Jonathan Ward, Jonathan Dearborn, Nathaniel P. Rogers. | |
| 1821 Jonathan Ward, Samuel C. Webster. | |
| 1822 Jonathan Ward, Asa Robbins, Stephen Goodhue, Jr., Christopher Morrison, Benjamin Bayley, Joseph Kimball, Samuel C. Webster, Edward Senter, Eaton George, John Ward, Jonathan Cummings. | |
| 1823 Jonathan Ward, Asa Robbins, James Miller, Samuel C. Webster, Jonathan Hull, James Morrison, Ebenezer Blodgett, Benjamin Bayley, Jonathan Cummings, Edward Senter, John Ward. | |
| 1824 Jonathan Ward, Asa Robbins, James Miller, Moses Ward, Moses George, William Gould, John Ward, Gideon Powers, John Adams, Jr., Jonas Willoughby, Edward Senter, Jr., Willard Rideout. | |
| 1825 Jonathan Ward, Nathaniel Draper, Benjamin Bayley. | |
| 1826 Jonathan Ward. | 1827 Jonathan Ward. |
| 1828-1831 The selectmen appointed the committee. No record. | |
| 1832 George Punchard, Samuel C. Webster, Jonathan Bliss. | |
| 1833 George Punchard, Samuel C. Webster, William C. Thompson. | |
| 1834-1845 No record. | |
| 1846 William R. Jewett, Anson Merrill, William Leverett. | |
| 1847 William R. Jewett, Samuel Long, Joseph C. Fifield. | |
| 1848 William R. Jewett, William C. Thompson, Samuel Long. | |
| 1849 William R. Jewett, Samuel Long, James G. Smith. | |
| 1850 William R. Jewett, Samuel Long, James G. Smith. | |
| 1851 William R. Jewett, Samuel Long, James G. Smith. | |
| 1852 William R. Jewett, Samuel Long, James G. Smith. | |
| 1853 William R. Jewett, Samuel Long, James G. Smith. | |
| 1854 William R. Jewett. | 1862 Andrew J. Huntoon. |
| 1855 William R. Jewett. | 1863 Charles M. Fellows. |
| 1856 Joseph Clark, Jr. | 1864 Eli Mellen Wight. |
| 1857 Joseph Clark, Jr. | 1865 Henry A. Hazen. |
| 1858 William R. Jewett. | 1866 Hiram L. Kelsey. |
| 1859 William R. Jewett. | 1867 Joseph Burrows. |
| 1860 James G. Smith. | 1868 Joseph W. Preston. |
| 1861 Andrew J. Huntoon. | 1869 Joseph W. Preston. |



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| 1870 Herman L. Sargent. | 1878 Charles A. Jewell. |
| 1871 Herman L. Sargent. | 1879 Charles A. Jewell. |
| 1872 Joseph W. Preston. | 1880 George H. Scott. |
| 1873 Joseph W. Preston. | 1881 George H. Scott. |
| 1874 Silas W. Davis. | 1882 Arthur S. Hazelton. |
| 1875 Silas W. Davis. | 1883 Quillen H. Shinn. |
| 1876 Silas W. Davis. | 1884 Henry P. Peck. |
| 1877 Charles A. Jewell. | |
- 1885 Charles A. Jewell, Alvin Burleigh, Robert Burns, James A. Penniman, Daniel H. Currier, Henry P. Peck.
 1886 Alvin Burleigh, Charles A. Jewell, Henry P. Peck, Daniel H. Currier, James A. Penniman, Robert Burns.
 1887 Alvin Burleigh, Thomas Tyrie, Daniel H. Currier, Henry P. Peck, James A. Penniman, Robert Burns.
 1888 Alvin Burleigh, Robert Burns, Thomas Tyrie.
 1889 Alvin Burleigh, Robert Burns, James A. Penniman.
 1890 Alvin Burleigh, James A. Penniman, John Keniston.
 1891 Alvin Burleigh, James A. Penniman, John Keniston.
 1892 Alvin Burleigh, James A. Penniman, John Keniston.
 1893 Alvin Burleigh, James A. Penniman, John Keniston.
 1894 John Keniston, James A. Penniman, Henry C. Currier.
 1895 John Keniston, Henry C. Currier, Alvin F. Wentworth.
 1896 John Keniston, Henry C. Currier, Alvin F. Wentworth.
 1897 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1898 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1899 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1900 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1901 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1902 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1903 John Keniston, Alvin F. Wentworth, Haven Palmer.
 1904 John Keniston, Haven Palmer, Alvin Burleigh.
 1905 John Keniston, Haven Palmer, Alvin Burleigh.



XX. THE HOLMES PLYMOUTH ACADEMY.

"**T**HEREFORE be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, that there be and hereby is established at Plymouth in the county of Grafton in this state, an Academy by the name of Holmes Plymouth Academy, and that the design is and shall be, to promote religion, virtue and literature, and more especially for teaching and instructing youth in the English, Latin and Greek languages, in writing, music and the art of speaking, in geography, logic, mathematics, history and agriculture and such other branches of science as opportunity may permit and the trustees hereinafter mentioned shall order and direct."

The act incorporating the Holmes Plymouth Academy, containing the legal phrases and the grants and limitations peculiar to this class of legislation, is unusually long. The act is found in Volume XVIII, page 85, of the manuscript laws in the State archives. The extract given expresses the object and aim of the incorporators.

The act further provided that Rev. Drury Fairbank, Rev. Noah Worcester, Rev. Robert Fowle, Rev. William Rolfe, Hon. Arthur Livermore, John Rogers, Esq., and Col. Samuel Holmes should constitute the board of trustees, with power to fill vacancies in the board from time to time, not exceeding seven in number.

The act was approved Dec. 7, 1808. In order of age it was the thirteenth academy incorporated in this State. The original petition is on file in the office of the Secretary of State.

To the Hon^{ble} Senate & House of Representatives, of the State of New Hampshire, in General Court convened —

Humbly shew the Subscribers, Inhabitants of Plymouth, in said State,



& the towns adjacent — that they conceive it to be highly necessary and proper that a public School be founded in said Town, for the benefit of the rising generation, — as there is no institution of the Kind, in any direction from s^d Plymouth, for upwards of thirty miles — that pupils can be accommodated with board not far from the house, already erected; which has been occupied of late, for several years, as a public School — and that a young Gentleman, of good abilities, is now employed therein as a teacher :

Wherefore, your Petitioners, for themselves & the public, earnestly pray your Honors to take the subject into consideration, and grant that an Academy be instituted in said Plymouth forever, with the privileges & immunities usually allowed, by the Legislature, to such corporations. — and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c. Nov. 15th. 1808.

Peter McQuesten
Edmund Durgin
Enoch Ward
Moor Russell
David Hazeltine
Phinehas Walker
Moses Hadley
John Rogers
James Miller
Jos. F. Cumings
W^m Webster
Daniel Eaton
Leonard Cumings

James Little
Eben^r Little
Moses Baker
Benj. Baker
Samuel Holmes
James M. Greenleaf
Edmund Marsh
John Southmayd
Daniel Pearceival
Sam^l Noyes
Sam^l Wells
Jotham Cumings Jr
Jona. Robbins Jr

State of New Hampshire

In the House of Representatives Nov^r 25th 1808.

Upon Reading and Considering the foregoing petition and the Report of a Committee thereon — Voted that the prayer be granted and that the petitioners have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

Sent up for Concurrence

CHARLES CUTTS Speaker

In Senate Nov^r 26, 1808

Read and concurred —

HENRY B. CHASE Ast Clerk

By the terms of the act of incorporation Rev. Drury Fairbank and John Rogers, Esq., or either of them, were authorized to call and preside in the first meeting of the trustees. There is preserved on a half-sheet of paper a record of this meeting.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Holmes Plymouth Academy holden at the Court House on the twenty seventh day of February A. D. 1809, agreeably to an act of the Legislature of New Hampshire passed Dec. 7, 1808, the Rev. Drury Fairbank in pursuance of said act presided.

Voted that John Rogers, Esq be secretary of said Corporation.

Voted that Hon. Arthur Livermore, John Rogers, Esq. Rev. Drury Fairbank and Rev. Robert Fowle be a committee to draft and report a code of orders and by-laws for the government of said corporation.

Voted that Samuel Holmes Esq be treasurer of the Institution.

Voted that Hon. Arthur Livermore, Rev. Noah Worcester, Col. Samuel Holmes and Rev. Drury Fairbank be a committee to procure an instructor for said academy as soon as may be.

Voted that Hon. Arthur Livermore, Rev. Robert Fowle, John Rogers Esq. and Rev. Drury Fairbank be a committee for the purpose of notifying the subscribers of the last year, as also any others who may be inclined to subscribe in future, for the benefit of said Institution, to meet at Col. William Webster's tavern on Monday the twentieth day of March next at one o'clock P. M. then and there to confer and act for the benefit aforesaid

Voted that the committee last above mentioned be empowered and directed to appoint and warn the next general meeting of the trustees.

Whereupon the meeting was dissolved

JOHN ROGERS, Sec'y.

During the ensuing few years the records of the trustees, like a volcano at rest, are silent, and the traditions of Plymouth are conservative and generally noncommittal. If there were terms of school under the general direction of the trustees of the Holmes Plymouth Academy before 1826, it remains to be proven.

Four of the trustees were named at the first to call the next meeting. Dr. John Rogers died March 8, 1814, and Rev. Drury Fairbank removed to Littleton, 1820. The two remaining members of the committee, after a deliberation of over thirteen years, warned a meeting as follows:—

The first step in the process of developing a curriculum is to identify the needs of the students. This involves a thorough analysis of the current curriculum and the needs of the students. The second step is to develop learning objectives that are specific, measurable, and achievable. The third step is to select the content and materials that will be used to teach the course. The fourth step is to develop the instructional strategies and activities that will be used to deliver the content. The fifth step is to evaluate the effectiveness of the curriculum and make any necessary revisions.

One of the most important factors in the development of a curriculum is the involvement of the faculty. The faculty should be involved in all stages of the process, from the initial identification of needs to the final evaluation and revision. This involvement is essential for the development of a curriculum that is relevant and effective. Another important factor is the availability of resources. The curriculum should be developed with the resources available to the institution in mind. This includes the availability of faculty, materials, and facilities.

The curriculum should also be developed with the needs of the students in mind. This involves a thorough analysis of the current curriculum and the needs of the students. The curriculum should be designed to meet the needs of the students and to provide them with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in their careers. The curriculum should also be designed to be flexible and to allow for changes as the needs of the students and the institution change.

Finally, the curriculum should be evaluated regularly to ensure its effectiveness. This involves collecting data on student performance and satisfaction and using this data to make any necessary revisions. The evaluation process should be ongoing and should involve the faculty, students, and administrators. This process is essential for the development of a curriculum that is relevant and effective.

In conclusion, the development of a curriculum is a complex process that involves many factors. The factors discussed here are just a few of the most important. The curriculum should be developed with the needs of the students and the institution in mind and should be evaluated regularly to ensure its effectiveness. The involvement of the faculty is essential for the development of a curriculum that is relevant and effective.

The curriculum should be designed to meet the needs of the students and to provide them with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in their careers. The curriculum should also be designed to be flexible and to allow for changes as the needs of the students and the institution change. The curriculum should be evaluated regularly to ensure its effectiveness and to make any necessary revisions.

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Aug. 24, 1822. The Trustees of the Holmes Plymouth Academy are hereby warned that a general meeting of the board will be holden this day at two o'clock, PM. at Col. Webster's tavern in Plymouth for the purposes following:

1. To elect members in lieu of John Rogers Esq deceased and Rev. William Rolfe, resigned.
2. To choose a president of the board.
3. To choose a secretary and transact other necessary business of the corporation.

ARTHUR LIVERMORE } for the Committee
ROBERT FOWLE }

At this meeting which assembled at the inn of Col. William Webster, Aug. 24, 1822, the entire proceedings are not recorded. The secretary recorded only the business transacted after his election. Dr. Samuel Robbins and Stephen Grant, Esq., were chosen trustees, to succeed Dr. John Rogers, deceased, and Rev. William Rolfe, resigned. Nathaniel Peabody Rogers, Esq., was elected secretary of the board. At the same meeting Arthur Livermore, Stephen Grant, and Samuel Rogers were "appointed to contract in behalf of the corporation for the erection of a house for the Academy."

During the life of the Holmes Plymouth Academy, the affairs were administered by a board of seven trustees. In the days of prosperity they were faithful, and in times of depression they personally contributed to the funds and gallantly struggled to save the institution. The whole number of trustees from 1808 to 1841 was twenty-four, and there were two elections which were declined. The term of service of each follows:—

Rev. Drury Fairbank, Dec. 7, 1808; resigned Sept. 2, 1822.	
Rev. Noah Worcester, Dec. 7, 1808; " Aug. 21, 1822.	
Rev. Robert Fowle, Dec. 7, 1808; " March 10, 1828.	
Rev. William Rolfe, Dec. 7, 1808; " Aug. 24, 1822.	
Arthur Livermore, Dec. 7, 1808; " July 10, 1826.	
Dr. John Rogers, Dec. 7, 1808; died March 8, 1814.	
Samuel Holmes, Dec. 7, 1808; " Jan. 4, 1823.	
Dr. Samuel Rogers, Aug. 24, 1822; resigned Jan. 27, 1829.	
Stephen Grant, Aug. 24, 1822; " March 10, 1828.	

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in financial matters. The text suggests that organizations should implement robust systems to track and document every aspect of their operations, from procurement to sales.

2. The second part of the document addresses the challenges of data management in a rapidly changing environment. It highlights the need for flexible and scalable solutions that can adapt to new technologies and evolving business requirements. The author argues that investing in modern data infrastructure is crucial for staying competitive and making informed decisions based on real-time information.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of leadership in driving organizational success. It stresses that effective leaders must inspire and motivate their teams, set clear goals, and foster a culture of innovation and collaboration. The text provides several practical tips for leaders, such as regular communication, active listening, and encouraging employee input.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the importance of continuous learning and development. It notes that in today's fast-paced world, skills and knowledge must be constantly updated to remain relevant. Organizations are encouraged to invest in training programs and provide opportunities for employees to acquire new skills and advance their careers.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes by summarizing the key points discussed and offering final thoughts on the future of business. It reiterates the importance of adaptability, innovation, and a strong commitment to excellence. The author expresses optimism about the future, provided that organizations continue to embrace change and strive for continuous improvement.

Rev. Jonathan Ward, Jan. 9, 1823; resigned Jan. 27, 1834.
 Josiah Quincy, Jan. 9, 1823; " July 10, 1826.
 Nathaniel Peabody Rogers,¹ Jan. 9, 1823; resigned Feb. 8, 1839.
 William Webster, July 10, 1826; " Jan. 12, 1837.
 Jonathan C. Everett, July 10, 1826; " Jan. 27, 1829.
 William Green, March 10, 1828; " May 20, 1836.
 David Moor Russell, March 10, 1828; " Jan. 27, 1834.
 John Rogers,¹ Jan. 27, 1829.
 William C. Thompson, Jan. 27, 1829; declined.
 Stevens Merrill, April 2, 1829; declined.
 Rev. George Punchard,¹ Jan. 27, 1834.
 William Wallace Russell,¹ Jan. 27, 1834.
 Alvah McQuesten, Jan. 27, 1834; resigned Feb. 26, 1836.
 William C. Thompson,¹ Feb. 26, 1836.
 Rev. Benjamin P. Stone, May 20, 1836; resigned July 17, 1838.
 Rufus G. Lewis,¹ Jan. 12, 1837.
 Rev. Increase S. Davis,¹ July 17, 1838.

Of the twenty-four active members of the board of trustees, fifteen at the time of service were residents of Plymouth, and three on account of connection with Plymouth families are also named in the family registers (Vol. II). A special mention in this connection is not demanded. Of the remaining trustees six in number, none were strangers, at the time of service, to the people of Plymouth.

Col. Samuel Holmes was born in Hadlyme, Conn., 1750, and settled in Campton, 1772. By industry and frugality he acquired a fair estate. He was a soldier in the Revolution, a colonel in the militia, a town officer, and a representative. He gave the land for a parsonage in Campton, and contributed liberally for the support

¹ The vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Nathaniel Peabody Rogers was not filled. There were six trustees at the dissolution of the corporation. Samuel Holmes was the president and treasurer of the board of trustees until his death. His successors as president were Arthur Livermore, William Webster, and John Rogers. The treasurer was not always a trustee. There was a vacancy in the office several years. William Green served five years and was succeeded by Greenough McQuesten, who was in office when the corporation was dissolved. The secretaries of the board were Dr. John Rogers, Nathaniel P. Rogers, William Green, Nathaniel P. Rogers a second term, Rev. George Punchard, and William W. Russell.

of preaching. While the discussion concerning a permanent academy in the Pemigewasset valley was under way, he donated five hundred dollars to promote the enterprise, and consented that the institution should be located in Plymouth. In his honor the academy was named. He was one of the incorporators and was the president of the board of trustees until his death. He died in Campton, Jan. 4, 1823.

Rev. Robert Fowle, son of Jacob and Alice Fowle, was born in Marblehead, Mass., 1766, baptized August 31, 1766, and graduated from Harvard University, 1786. He was the Episcopalian clergyman of Holderness many years. He was ordained a deacon Dec. 13, 1789, and priest June 29, 1791. He entered upon the duties of the ministry at Holderness, 1789, and was a rector of the church fifty-six years. He died in Holderness, Oct. 12, 1847.

Rev. William Rolfe was born in Plaistow, March 14, 1773, and graduated from Dartmouth College, 1799. He was settled over the Congregational Church in Groton, as a colleague of Rev. Thomas Page, Nov. 9, 1803. Rev. Mr. Page died May 3, 1813, and Mr. Rolfe continued pastor of the church until his death in June, 1828.

Rev. Benjamin P. Stone was also a preceptor, and will be noticed in that connection.

Col. Rufus Graves Lewis, son of Col. Moses and Sally (Martin) Lewis, was born in Bridgewater (now Bristol), Sept. 14, 1800. He lived in New Hampton, and was a popular and influential citizen. His father removed to Gainesville, Ala., in 1815, and Colonel Rufus generally spent the winter season in the South, where he owned large estates. He was a liberal donor to the Holmes Plymouth Academy and to the New Hampton Literary and Biblical Institute. He was a Congregationalist, attending church at Bristol. Dartmouth College conferred the honorary degree A.M. in 1860. He died in New Hampton, Sept. 27, 1865. Hon. Edwin C. Lewis of Laconia is a son of Col. Rufus G. Lewis.

Rev. Increase S. Davis, son of Ebenezer and Sarah (Sumner) Davis, was born in Brookline, Mass., May 6, and was baptized at

the First Parish Church May 14, 1797. His mother was a sister of Increase Sumner, Governor of Massachusetts, 1797-99. Mr. Davis was a wheelwright in Roxbury, and later became a student at Phillips Exeter Academy. After leaving the academy he was a wheelwright, school teacher, and a farmer in Newton, Mass. In 1827 he entered upon the study of theology with Rev. Jonathan Homer, D.D., of Newton. He was ordained and settled at Dorchester, Oct. 9, 1828, and dismissed June 19, 1833. He was acting pastor at Orford, December, 1834 to May, 1839; at Piermont, April, 1840 to April, 1860. During the Civil War he removed to Nevinsville, Iowa, and was a preacher in the vicinity several years. He was noted for physical vigor, and in his parochial labors he walked long distances. In 1863 he walked eighty miles to attend the general conference at Des Moines, Iowa. He died Nov. 24, 1864.

The next meeting of the board of trustees was held Sept. 2, 1822. The president, Samuel Holmes, was not present, and Arthur Livermore was chosen president *pro tempore*. In the proceedings of this meeting is found the first reference to the selection of a principal and the inauguration of a school. Stephen Grant, Dr. Samuel Rogers, and Nathaniel Peabody Rogers were delegated to "obtain a preceptor for the year ensuing," and in October, 1823, the same committee were again instructed in the same manner. The report of this committee was accepted and placed on file. The report is lost, and the name of the teacher or teachers, if any were employed, cannot be stated.

There is no record of a meeting in the year 1824. In July, 1825, Stephen Grant was requested to visit Dartmouth College and procure a preceptor. He was authorized to offer a salary of three hundred and fifty dollars. He employed Samuel A. Burns, a son of Samuel Burns of Rumney. He was born June 21, 1802, and graduated from Dartmouth, 1826. He was principal of the academy one year. If not the first principal, he is the first one of whom a record is preserved.

At a meeting of the trustees Sept. 8, 1827, a committee was

chosen to procure a suitable boarding-house for the preceptor; the trustees also directed that a new door to the academy building, with a new lock and key, be provided, and ordered some other repairs. At a meeting two weeks later the records assert "Received and accepted the statement of Col. William Webster, agent to procure repairs to be done on the Academy house, the expense of which was \$25.00. This and other expenses in all \$39.94, the trustees assumed to pay, assistance from the liberal minded in the neighborhood was voted to be solicited and the trustees voted to share the remainder of the expense equally among themselves."

The next principal was Mr. Abbot, who opened the school Monday, Sept. 17, 1827. Of the terms made with him the trustees made a memorandum. "In a conversation with Mr. Abbot, the preceptor engaged for the coming year, we gave him to understand in case, at the end of the first quarter, the prospect should be that he would receive short of \$500, that on notice he might consider the agreement at an end and terminate the school."

Mr. Abbot found that "the prospect that he would receive short of \$500" was more than a conjecture. He resigned at the close of the winter term. His successor was Ira Young, who entered upon his labor in Holmes Plymouth Academy, Monday, March 10, 1828, but he remained only a part of a year.

Ira Young was born in Lebanon, May 23, 1801. He graduated at Dartmouth, 1828, and when he began teaching in Plymouth he was an undergraduate in the senior class. After his brief labor in this town he was a tutor three years and a professor twenty-five years in Dartmouth College. He died in Hanover, Sept. 13, 1858.

The next preceptor was Milo P. Jewett, who assumed charge of the academy in September, 1828, and remained one year. He was a son of Dr. Calvin and Sally (Parker) Jewett and was born in St. Johnsbury, Vt., April 27, 1808. He was a graduate of Dartmouth, 1828, and a classmate of Prof. Ira Young. He was subsequently distinguished in educational affairs. (See Volume II.)

The American Medical Association is a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of promoting the interests of the medical profession and the public. It is composed of members who are physicians and surgeons, and who are engaged in the practice of medicine and surgery. The Association is organized into various departments and committees, and it holds regular meetings and conventions. It is also engaged in various other activities, such as the publication of journals and the maintenance of a library.

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From the close of the administration of Mr. Jewett in the summer of 1829, the academy probably was closed until the early autumn of 1835. If any teachers were employed during an interregnum of six years the records are silent upon the subject. In the meantime the trustees were not indifferent and it will appear that they were not idle. The palmy days of Holmes Plymouth Academy were yet in the future. In January, 1834, Rev. George Punchard was elected a trustee. His interest in educational affairs and the enthusiasm of his buoyant nature were contagious. At once the trustees manifested an enlarged ambition and the whole community became deeply interested. The fortunes of Holmes Plymouth Academy were reflected in golden hues.

The old academy building was removed, a new and an enlarged building was erected, additional land was purchased, and two boarding-houses were built for the accommodation of the institution. In the work of rebuilding the academy buildings the citizens of Plymouth, with the approval of the trustees, assumed a leading part and in a great measure bore the burden of a substantial undertaking. They chose two committees to prosecute the work, naming one citizen and two of the trustees on each committee. In this work the trustees were enlisted and rendered efficient service as citizens, and the records of the corporation for a season are silent. In the end, as soon as the enthusiasm of the citizens had become satiated by achievement, the corporation was called upon to accept the subscriptions, which were large, and to assume the cost of the land and the new buildings, which were larger. The citizens retired. The academy never recovered from the burden of debt then assumed and never was able to meet the financial obligations which were created under the voluntary administration of the citizens.

The record of the trustees in the completion of the work begun, and in ratifying whatever had been done, is clearly stated in the book of records:—

At a meeting of the board holden at the office of the Pemigewasset Bank, August 29, 1835.

Voted that William W. Russell, Ezra W. Avery [Campton], and John

Rogers be a committee to complete the Academy House and that their former doings in removing the former building and erecting the one now in progress be ratified and accepted.

Voted that William W. Russell, George W. Ward and John Rogers be a committee to purchase land for a boarding house and to complete the house now being erected on the land purchased of John Bailey, and that the said purchase be ratified and accepted.

Voted that said Russell, Avery and Rogers, committee, be authorized to draw on the treasurer for any sum not exceeding (with the amount subscribed) the sum of fifteen hundred dollars.

Voted that said Russell, Ward, and Rogers, committee, be authorized to draw on the treasurer for any sum not exceeding three thousand dollars.

Connected with and explanatory of these proceedings there is entered on a page of the records, dated August, 1835, the following statement: —

The trustees of Holmes Plymouth Academy, regarding the interests of religion as well as the education of our youth (prospective objects embraced in the charter of this Academy), and viewing the present as a favorable time to enlarge the accommodations of the institution, met for consultation at sundry times. The inhabitants of the village, in the autumn of 1834, subscribed towards the enlargement of the Academy building and chose a committee to superintend the business. Two out of three of the committee were trustees. The materials were procured, and in the spring and summer of 1835 the Academy Building was rebuilt. The Rev. Mr. Punchard was appointed an agent to collect funds and procure donations and subscriptions. A contract was made and concluded for the purchase of three acres of land and the buildings thereon and a spacious boarding house projected and a committee appointed to purchase the materials and erect a house.

It is known that a considerable sum was freely given by the citizens of Plymouth and the surrounding towns to meet a part of the expense of the new buildings, and it will remain a subject of regret that a list of the offerings of generous men and women is not preserved. In 1837 Col. Rufus G. Lewis presented the corporation sixteen hundred dollars, and the trustees appointed a committee "to present the thanks of the board for his liberal gift."

During the preparation for rebuilding, the legislature in June, 1835, passed an act changing the name of the corporation to "The

the following: (1) the physician's duty to his patient; (2) the physician's duty to his fellow physicians; (3) the physician's duty to his community; and (4) the physician's duty to himself.

The first duty is to the patient. The physician's primary obligation is to his patient. He must always act in the patient's best interest.

The second duty is to his fellow physicians. The physician must always act in the best interest of his fellow physicians.

The third duty is to his community. The physician must always act in the best interest of his community.

The fourth duty is to himself. The physician must always act in the best interest of himself.

The physician's duty to his patient is the most important. He must always act in the patient's best interest.

The physician's duty to his fellow physicians is the second most important. He must always act in the best interest of his fellow physicians.

The physician's duty to his community is the third most important. He must always act in the best interest of his community.

The physician's duty to himself is the fourth most important. He must always act in the best interest of himself.

The physician's duty to his patient is the most important. He must always act in the patient's best interest.

The physician's duty to his fellow physicians is the second most important. He must always act in the best interest of his fellow physicians.

The physician's duty to his community is the third most important. He must always act in the best interest of his community.

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The physician's duty to his patient is the most important. He must always act in the patient's best interest.

Plymouth Literary and Theological Seminary." The trustees held two meetings in consideration of a change of the name of the institution and unanimously voted not to accept the act. From 1808 to 1844, the limits of its existence, the corporation was "The Holmes Plymouth Academy." The names "Teachers Seminary and Theological Institute," "Teachers Seminary," and "Teachers Seminary and Classical Institution," which appear upon the catalogues, are misnomers.

The school was opened in the new buildings in the autumn of 1835. George Cook, who remained one year, was the principal. He was a son of Rev. Phineas and Sophia (Grout) Cook, born in Keene, Dec. 26, 1811; graduated from Dartmouth, 1832. He was pastor of the Congregational Church, Amherst, Mass., 1839-52. Subsequently he was president of the University of Tennessee. He died March 9, 1889. The catalogue for the year of Mr. Cook's administration contains the names of 168 students. Of these 62 were residents of Plymouth.

In 1835 and 1836 the theological experiment was essayed and abandoned. The catalogue for 1836 is styled "A Catalogue of the Teachers Seminary and Theological Institute." It contains the following grave announcement:—

THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT. This department of the institute is designed for the instruction of a class of men found in many of our Churches of sound understanding, and enlightened and active piety and of good report, who are so far advanced in life, or are so embarrassed with families, or by other circumstances, as to render it inexpedient for them to undertake a protracted and thorough course of academical, collegiate, and theological training, and to afford them the advantages of one, two, or three years study, with direct reference to the duties of the ministry, in such fields as they are designed to occupy. The length of their course must be regulated by reference to their previous attainments. While in this Institution, their time will be occupied, chiefly, in the study of standard English writers;—such, for example, as have written most ably upon Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Logic, Rhetoric, the Divine Existence, the Christian Revelation, Biblical Exposition, and Systematic Theology;—and the composition, criticism, and delivery of original essays and sermons, and the hearing of lectures, upon pastoral duties, and such other topics as may be judged necessary.

No charges will be made for the instruction of any who are in indigent circumstances.

The Rev. Benjamin P. Stone has been appointed Professor in this department, and has entered upon the duties of his office.

Rev. Benjamin P. Stone was the theological department. His name stands first in the faculty and he is called "Professor of Moral and Mental Philosophy and Theology." The catalogue presents no evidence that there were any students in the department, and the catalogue of 1838 announces that "the original design of making theology prominent has, on account of circumstances, been modified."

The principal of the female department was Mary E. Ellison, who remained three or four years. Associated with Mr. Cook the last two terms of the year was George Baker Jewett, "teacher in the languages," who remained the following year. He was a relative of Rev. George Punchard, a son of Paul and Eleanor (Punchard) Jewett, born in Lebanon, Me., Sept. 11, 1818. After teaching in Plymouth he entered Amherst College and graduated 1840; graduated from Andover Theological Seminary, 1842. He was a professor of Latin and modern languages in Amherst College and pastor of the First Congregational Church, Nashua, 1854-56. He is the author of Baptism versus Immersion, and Critique on the Greek Text of the New Testament as edited by the American Bible Union. He edited the fifth and last volume of Punchard's History of Congregationalism. He died June 9, 1886.

Rev. Benjamin Perkins Stone, D.D., son of David Stone, was born in Reading, Vt., Feb. 11, 1801; Middlebury College, 1828, Andover Theological Seminary, 1831; ordained and installed pastor of the Congregational Church of Franklin, May 26, 1831, dismissed May 2, 1832; installed pastor of Congregational Church of Campton, June 12, 1833, dismissed Sept. 11, 1837. It was during his ministry in Campton that he was elected a trustee and was a professor in Holmes Plymouth Academy. He was secretary of the New Hampshire Home Missionary Society, with a residence in Concord, 1837-59, and also general agent, 1837-54. He was

editor of *The Congregational Journal*, Concord, 1854-62. As an agent of the Home Missionary Society, he travelled sixty-five thousand miles in New Hampshire. D.D. Middlebury College, 1854. He died in Concord, Nov. 26, 1870.

A catalogue for the year 1837, if printed, has not been found. At this time Timothy Dwight Porter Stone was an associate principal and efficient instructor a few terms. He was a son of Rev. Timothy and Mary (Merwin) Stone, and was born in Cornwall, Conn., July 27, 1811; Amherst College, 1834. He was principal of *The Concord Literary Institution and Teachers Seminary*, 1834-36, and came from Concord to Plymouth in April, 1837. He studied theology with Rev. Dr. Bouton of Concord, and graduated at Andover Theological Seminary, 1842. With the exception of brief pastorates at Holliston, Marblehead, and Stow, Mass., through life he was an instructor in many prosperous institutions of learning, and also a professor of elocution. He is author of *Memoir of Mr. Webster*, *Stories to Teach me how to Think*, *Child's Reader*, *Stone's Elocution*, and other works.

The beginning of a new era in the history of the academy is introduced by a vote of the trustees, Feb. 26, 1836, to elect Samuel Read Hall principal and to offer him a salary of six hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

The coming of Mr. Hall, for unknown reasons, was delayed, and in the meantime Mr. Jewett was retained, and possibly others were secured. In January, 1837, the overtures to Mr. Hall were renewed and the proffered salary of six hundred and fifty dollars was accepted. During the administration of Mr. Hall the institution was styled in the prospectus and catalogue "*The Teachers Seminary*." The faculty for the year ending 1838 were:—

Rev. Samuel R. Hall, Principal.

Mr. Joel B. Stow, Mathematical Teacher.

Mr. John Lawrence, Classical Teacher.

Miss Mary E. Ellison, Principal Female Department.

Miss Emily P. Copeland, Instructor in Instrumental and Vocal Music and Calisthenics.

The first of these is the fact that the human race is not a homogeneous mass, but is composed of many distinct groups, each with its own characteristics. These groups are known as races, and they are distinguished from one another by their physical and mental traits. The second fact is that these races have not remained stationary, but have changed and evolved over time. This is due to a variety of factors, including changes in environment, diet, and social organization. The third fact is that the human race is a single species, and all members of the race are capable of interbreeding and producing fertile offspring. This is in contrast to many other species, which are divided into distinct subspecies or varieties that are incapable of interbreeding.

The study of the human race is a complex and fascinating task, and it requires the use of many different methods and techniques. One of the most important methods is the study of the human skeleton, which can provide valuable information about the physical characteristics of a race. Another important method is the study of human language, which can provide information about the mental and cultural characteristics of a race. The study of human history and social organization is also an important part of the study of the human race, as it can provide information about the changes that have taken place over time.

The study of the human race is a task that requires the cooperation of many different disciplines, including anthropology, biology, psychology, and history. It is a task that is constantly evolving, as new discoveries are made and new theories are developed. The study of the human race is a task that is of great importance to the human race, as it helps us to understand ourselves and our place in the world.

Mr. J. P. Rogers } Teachers in Chirography.
 Mr. R. W. Lane }
 Mr. E. W. Noyes, Assistant Pupil.
 Mr. F. S. Thompson, Cabinet Keeper and Librarian.

There are 248 names of pupils in the catalogue, arranged as follows:—

Senior Class	0
Middle Class	10
Junior Class	13
Preparatory Class and General Department	115
Ladies	110

The faculty for the year ending 1839 presents a few changes. Messrs. Hall, Stow, Lawrence, Rogers, and Thompson are retained in the same positions. The new names are:—

Mr. Phineas A. Bean, Assistant in Mathematical Department.
 Mr. John Lane, Instructor in Chirography.
 Mr. Henry S. Farwell, Instructor in Sacred Music.
 Miss Arethusa Hall, Principal Female Department.
 Miss Racillia B. Anderson and Miss Apphia P. Judd, Assistants.
 Miss Clarissa Stow, Teacher Primary Department.

The number of students named in the catalogue is 201, classified as follows:—

Senior Class	7
Middle Class	10
Junior Class	11
Classical and General Department	87
Ladies	86

Mr. Hall closed his labors in the academy early in 1840, and was succeeded by Joseph G. Hoyt, who remained one year. The catalogue of the school is the only recorded history of the year. The records of the trustees are silent. In the catalogue the name of the school is now "The Teachers Seminary and Classical Institution." The instructors for the year were:—

Joseph G. Hoyt, A.B., Principal.
 Mr. William H. Seagrave, Teacher in English.
 Mr. William P. Webster, Teacher in English.



